Integrity Report

2024

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GLOBALG.A.P.

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What is the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program?

Maintaining trust in the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system

The GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program is designed to ensure the consistent delivery and implementation of GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons around the world. **It monitors and assesses the key aspects of the third-party certification process,** acting as a feedback mechanism that serves the continuous improvement of the entire certification system.

Which activities are included?

1

Certification body (CB) approval and training
Ensuring the competence and quality of the worldwide network of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs

2

Certification integrity assessments
Conducting integrity assessments to monitor CB performance and consistency in applying GLOBALG.A.P. solutions

3

Complaint management
Enabling a fast and thorough response system to complaints, investigating maximum residue limit (MRL) exceedances, and protecting the GLOBALG.A.P. brand in the market

4

Customer support
Providing timely and accurate information to stakeholders, from the certification process to the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems

Why do we have an integrity program?

With almost 200,000 producers with certified production processes around the world, the GLOBALG.A.P. Secretariat is determined to uphold the levels of excellence and transparency that are at the heart of what we do. The oversight provided by the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program highlights our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement and accountability.

→ **For producers,** the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program contributes to a fair audit process by monitoring and evaluating CB competence in the field. It ensures that CBs conduct their audits in line with GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents and verifies that the same criteria and quality standards are used consistently and impartially.

→ **For retailers,** the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program builds trust in the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system and mitigates reputational risk by monitoring certification claims, investigating complaints, and providing transparency on certificate validity. For quality assurance, both targeted and random CB office and producer assessments are conducted each year.

→ **For CBs,** the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program monitors an entire range of processes, from registration to certification, including the consistent implementation of GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons at farm level. Comprehensive support also provides a straightforward point of contact for the clarification of questions on GLOBALG.A.P. solutions and the auditing process.

The most robust in the sector

The GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program was founded in 2008 as the first of its kind in food certification. The program has been dedicated to the monitoring and strengthening of the certification process for the last 17 years and is still one of the most robust in the sector, going beyond comparable integrity mechanisms which rely primarily on desk assessments. The GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program oversees **between 300–500 days of integrity assessments** every year by a dedicated team of integrity assessors.

The scope of the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program

With standards audited by **193 approved CBs in 46 countries** on six continents, the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program is essential for safeguarding the reliability and consistency of GLOBALG.A.P. certification and maintaining stakeholder trust.

700+
products
produced under GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes in more than 130 countries

2800+
auditors
from more than 190 GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs monitored and assessed

60,000+
certificates
awarded by independent, third-party CBs for GLOBALG.A.P. core solutions

550+
participants from CBs
taking part in GLOBALG.A.P. Academy trainings annually

8 GLOBALG.A.P.
experts
monitoring CB performance through annual integrity assessments

9,000+
requests
resolved by the GLOBALG.A.P. Customer Support team in 13 different languages annually

1,200+ retailers and supply chain companies
supported on certificate validation, GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems, and more

Who is involved in the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program?

1 | GLOBALG.A.P. teams:

- **CB Integrity team**
  for integrity assessments and complaint investigation

- **CB Administration team and GLOBALG.A.P. Academy**
  for CB approval and training

- **Customer Support team**
  for complaint management and customer service

2 | Integrity Surveillance Committee

The **Integrity Surveillance Committee (ISC)** is an independent and impartial body that plays a key role in maintaining certification integrity by making decisions on performance-related sanctions for CBs. ISC members are industry experts who work independently, meet at least twice a year, and are not CB stakeholders.

ISC members
- One chairperson
- One retailer representative
- One substitute retailer representative
- One producer/supplier representative

3 | GLOBALG.A.P. Advisory Board

The GLOBALG.A.P. Advisory Board follows up and provides guidance to the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program.

The year in **numbers**
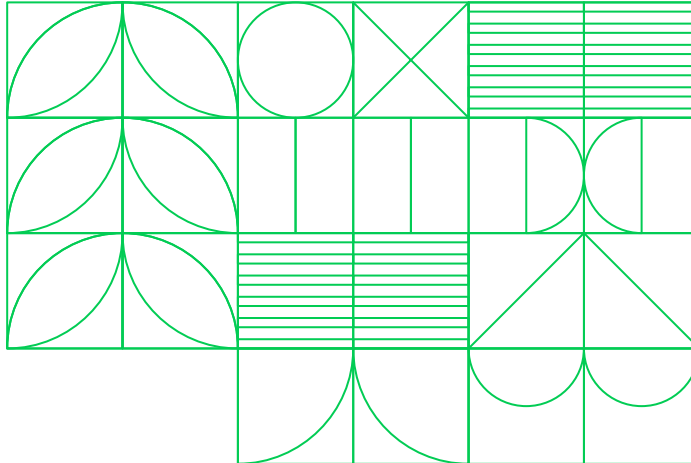
479
days
of integrity assessments
performed in 43 countries

122
certification
bodies assessed
(of 193 total approved certification bodies)

55
trainings
for 572 participants

609
complaints
investigated in 65 countries

252
brand
integrity
incidents

9,075
customer
support tickets

supporting 1,500 stakeholders

Warnings **issued:**

5 first warnings

4 second warnings

4 yellow cards

2 red cards

2 contract terminations

117
investigations on
maximum residue
limit complaints

from **26 different countries**
affecting 19 different crop
categories

Integrity assessment locations 2024
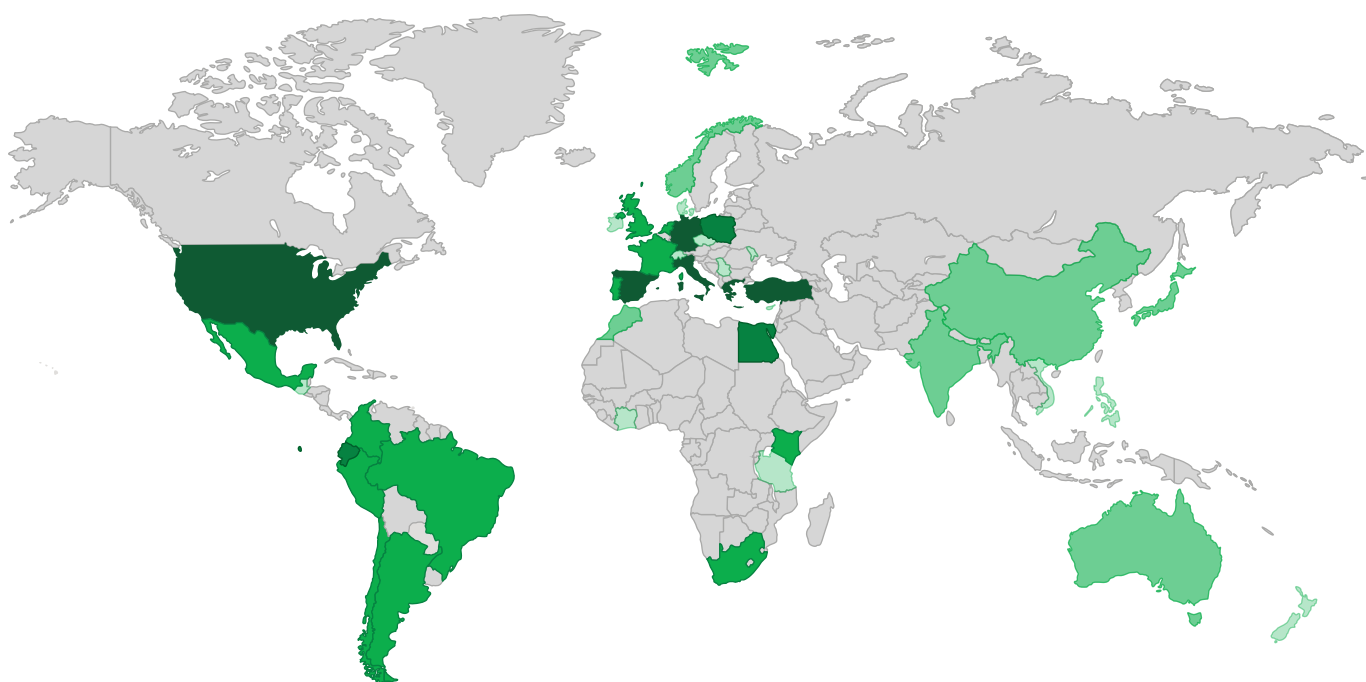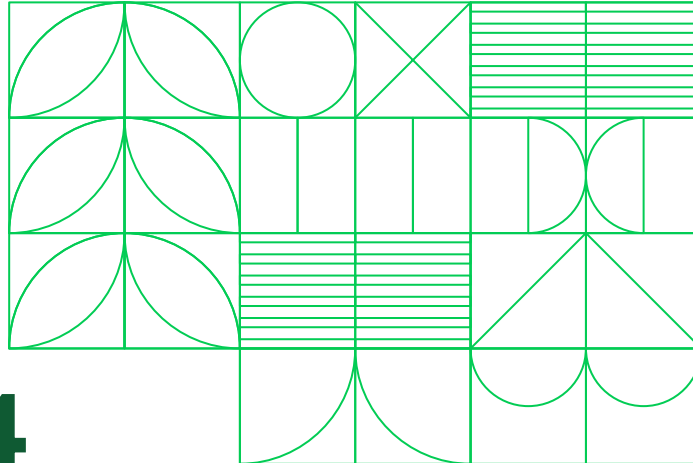
Key: <5 days   5 to 10 days   10 to 15 days   15 to 20 days   20+ days

Country	Number of days	Country	Number of days	Country	Number of days
Argentina	12	India	9.5	South Africa	11
Australia	6.5	Ireland	4	Spain	50.5
Austria	2	Italy	23	Switzerland	2.5
Belgium	4	Ivory Coast	3	Tanzania	4
Brazil	10	Japan	9	Turkey	21
Chile	14.5	Kenya	15	United Kingdom	10.5
China	8	Mexico	13	United States	39.5
Colombia	14	Moldova	4	Vietnam	4
Cyprus	2	Morocco	6		
Czech Republic	2	Netherlands	11		
Denmark	4	New Zealand	5		
Ecuador	16	Norway	6		
Egypt	15	Peru	13.5		
France	13.5	Philippines	5		
Germany	26	Poland	18		
Greece	21	Portugal	10.5	**Total**	**479**
Guatemala	4	Serbia	3		

About certification body approval

193 approved certification bodies are responsible for conducting audits and issuing certificates worldwide (2024)

GLOBALG.A.P. certificates are issued by our network of approved certification bodies (CBs) around the world. As accredited and independent third-party entities, they mark our smart farm assurance solutions as some of the most robust on the market. Only the CBs that successfully pass the approval process may sign license and certification agreements with GLOBALG.A.P. Conducting the approval process and verifying the competence of applicant CBs is a core part of the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program.

What are the requirements for becoming a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body?

- **Accreditation to ISO/IEC 17065** for the relevant scope or standard.

- **For Option 1 audits** (individual producers): At least one farm auditor who can perform the audits and one quality management system (QMS) auditor who have both completed all applicable qualification requirements.

- **For Option 2 audits** (producer groups): At least one QMS auditor for QMS audits and at least one other QMS auditor for the CB decision-making committee who have both completed all applicable qualification requirements.

- A nominated **scheme manager.**

- A nominated **in-house trainer.**

What are the responsibilities of a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body?

- **Conducting** both announced and unannounced farm audits and assessments to check compliance with certification requirements

- **Registering** and updating audit, assessment, and certification data in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems, ensuring the accuracy of producer information

- **Informing** producers and supply chain stakeholders about certification deadlines and annual audit/assessment requirements

- **Supporting** the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program in resolving complaints or irregularities

- **Fulfilling** the accreditation requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system and working to uphold integrity and transparency obligations

- **Continuously training** and maintaining the competency of staff, from in-house trainers (IHTs) and scheme managers to farm and QMS auditors.

Good to know:

A full and detailed list of requirements and expectations for GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs can be found in the **GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations – Rules for certification bodies.**

The route to GLOBALG.A.P. approval
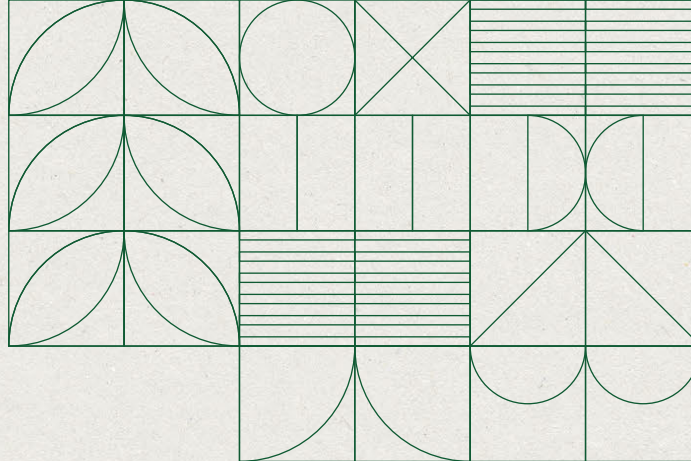
1 Registration

CBs must register in the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems and submit the completed application form.

2 Accreditation

GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs must be accredited to ISO/IEC 17065 for the relevant scope or standard through an accreditation body that is a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and signatory of the Multilateral Recognition Arrangement on Product Certification.

3 Internal approval process

GLOBALG.A.P. evaluates the application. If all requirements are met, then license and certification agreements are signed and the CB is provisionally approved.

4 Provisional approval

When CBs achieve "provisionally approved" status, they are added to the list of approved CBs on the GLOBALG.A.P. website, have access to the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems, and are able to issue nonaccredited certificates to a limited number of producers. Farm and QMS auditors must be registered in our Certification Body Administration Tool (CB-AT), including uploading evidence of auditor qualifications, and pay the auditor registration fee. CBs then have six months to provide the accreditation certificate and nominate an in-house trainer (IHT) to participate in an IHT training.

5 Final approval

After the IHT has passed the IHT exam and the application has been finally approved, the status in the list of approved CBs will become "approved". Limits on issuing certificates under "provisionally approved" status are then removed.

GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies around the world

The number of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs remains steady, providing producers around the world with a choice of accredited and approved CBs to conduct their audit.

For a full list of the GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs, please see **page 52**.

GLOBALG.A.P. APPROVED CERTIFICATION BODIES (2020—2024)

172 approved CBs*	189 approved CBs	190 approved CBs	194 approved CBs	193 approved CBs
2020	2021	2022	2023	2024

*In 2020, some CBs were acquired and absorbed by other approved CBs, and others may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

Standard/Add-on		Number of approved CBs
GLOBALG.A.P. core solutions	Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) for plants	160
	IFA for aquaculture	20
	GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC)	116
	Compound Feed Manufacturing (CFM)	13
	Crops for Processing (CfP)	15
	Harmonized Produce Safety Standard (HPSS)	8
	Produce Handling Assurance (PHA)	7
GLOBALG.A.P. add-ons to core solutions	GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice (GRASP)	149
	Sustainable Program for Irrigation and Groundwater Use (SPRING)	84
	Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability (IDA) add-on	12
	Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule (FSMA PSR) add-on	52
	TR4 Biosecurity Add-on for Bananas	25
	BioDiversity	24
	NON-GM/"Ohne Gentechnik" Module 1	7
	NON-GM/"Ohne Gentechnik" Module 2	6
	NON-GM/"Ohne Gentechnik" Module 3	6
	GLOBALG.A.P. Farm Sustainability Assessment (GGFSA)	36
GLOBALG.A.P. primary solutions	Primary Farm Assurance (PFA)	13
	Impact-Driven Approach to Sustainability (IDA) module	6
Other party private solutions	CBs approved to audit to one or more other party private solutions	146

Headquarter locations of GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies

In addition to annual supervision by their own accreditation bodies according to the international rules for product certification (ISO/IEC 17065), all GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs are monitored by GLOBALG.A.P.'s own dedicated team of expert integrity assessors who conduct integrity assessments.
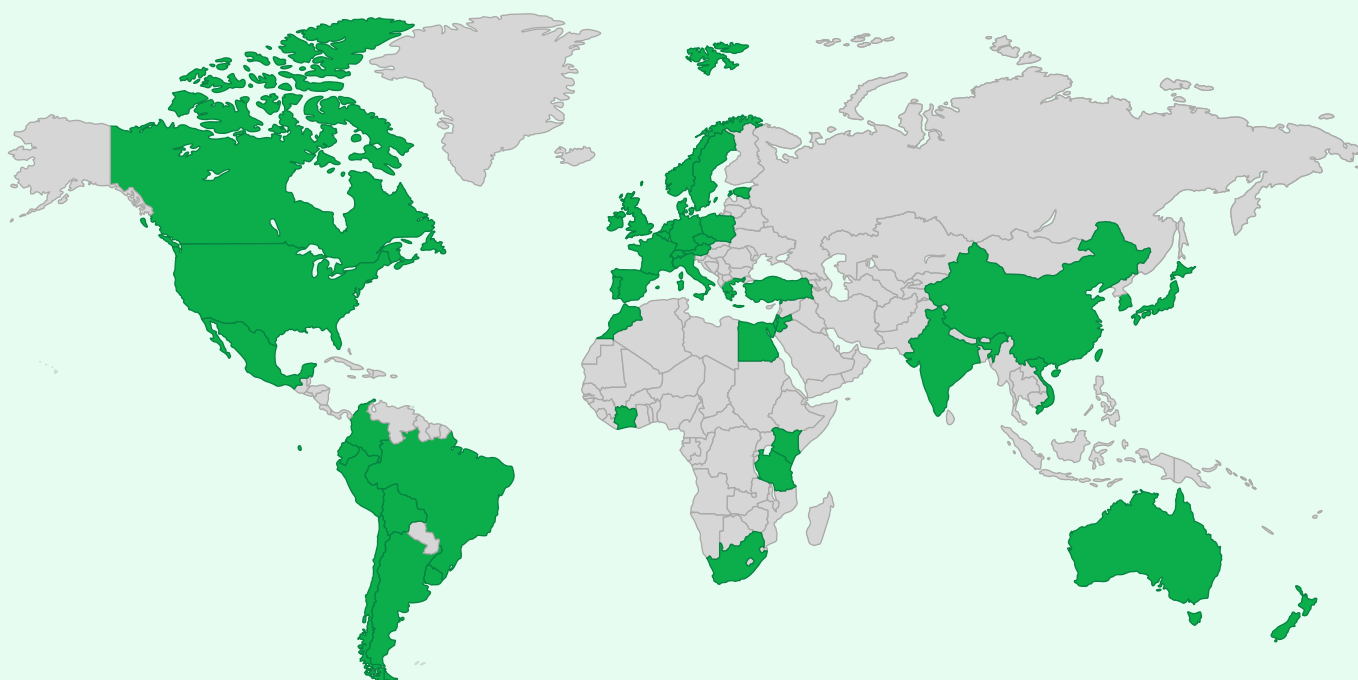
United States and Canada

Canada	1
USA	12

Latin America (Mexico, Central and South America, and the Carribean)

Argentina	5
Bolivia	1
Brazil	5
Chile	2
Colombia	4
Ecuador	1
Mexico	12
Peru	2
Uruguay	1

Europe

Austria	5
Belgium	3
Czech Republic	1
Denmark	2
Estonia	1
France	5
Germany	17
Greece	7
Ireland	1
Italy	13
Netherlands	5
Norway	2
Poland	6
Portugal	5
Spain	20
Sweden	1
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	6

Africa

Egypt	4
Ivory Coast	2
Kenya	3
Morocco	1
South Africa	4
Tanzania	1

Asia and Oceania

Australia	1
China	3
India	3
Israel	1
Japan	2
Jordan	1
New Zealand	1
South Korea	2
Taiwan	1
Turkey	9
Vietnam	5

Please note that CBs may also operate internationally outside the country in which their headquarters are located.

New certification bodies **approved in 2024**

Green Certificaciones e
Inspecciones S.C.
Mexico

Food Safety CTS Servicios
de Auditoria S.C.
Mexico

Eurofins Food Safety Solutions
United Kingdom

SMAK Certifiering AB
Sweden

Agrocontrol
Iberica, S.L.
Spain

Lenor Colombia
SAS
Colombia

Emerja SAS
Colombia

Certiva for Quality Certificates
Egypt

Maintaining quality
in the delivery of our solutions

What are the training requirements for GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies?

We conduct regular training courses for certification bodies (CBs) to maintain excellence in the delivery of our solutions. Training courses are designed for farm auditors, quality management system (QMS) auditors, in-house trainers (IHTs), and scheme managers, who must all fulfill specific qualification requirements to work on the certification process of GLOBALG.A.P. standards and add-ons.

→ All farm auditors are required to pass the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. online tests (dependent on the scope to be audited) before they may conduct audits.

→ All QMS auditors must attend a GLOBALG.A.P. QMS auditor training.

→ The designated scheme manager must take part in an annual scheme manager update (SMU) training.

→ The designated IHT must take part in the relevant compulsory CB training (dependent on the scope to be audited).

Good to know:

All GLOBALG.A.P. IHT exams are proctored. This means that the identity of the examinee is verified before the exam can begin, and the examinee is monitored for the entire duration of the test via computer desktop, webcam video, and audio.

Certification body training courses in 2024

In 2024 there were **55 trainings** for **572 participants.**

This included two in-person trainings and 53 conducted online. This is down from 116 trainings for 1,215 participants in 2023, largely due to the previous year's more intensive preparations for the Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) version 6 standard (published in September 2022) and the replacement of version 5.2. **IFA v6 Smart replaced v5.2 on 1 January 2024**, and therefore, much of the CB training for the year was focused on this standard and related add-on updates, such as GRASP v2 and SPRING v2.

Breakdown of CB training courses per type in 2024

- ● Scheme manager update training
- ● QMS auditor training (including update trainings)
- ● IHT training (various standards)
- ● Other

13; **23.6%**

28; **51%**

13; **23.6%**

1; **1.8%**
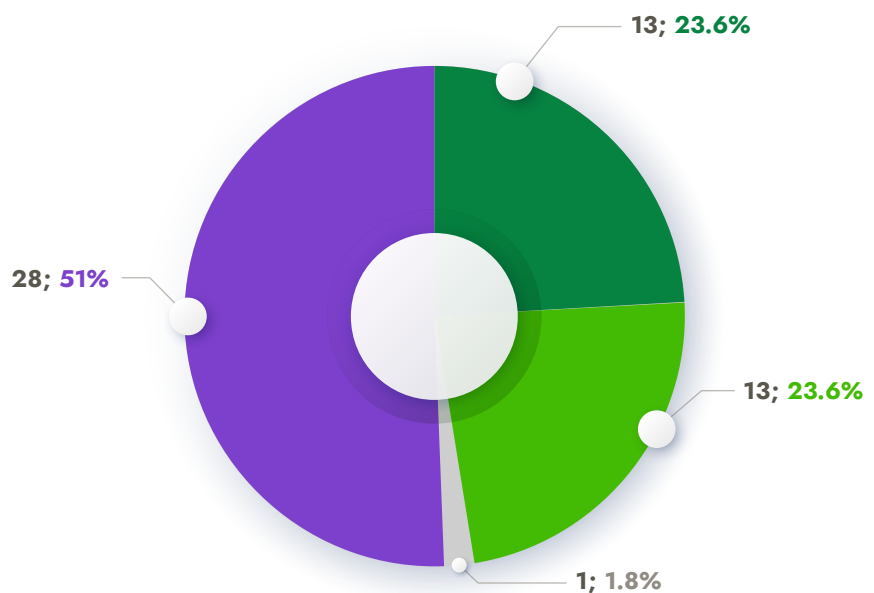
See the annex for a full breakdown of all CB training courses in 2024.

Good to know:

Scheme manager update training focuses on CB operational issues and updates for scheme managers. It also provides an opportunity to clarify technical questions and is neither scope- nor standard-specific.

QMS auditor training trains auditors of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs to audit the quality management systems of producer groups.

IHT training qualifies auditors and inspectors working for GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs to become in-house trainers.

What are integrity assessments?

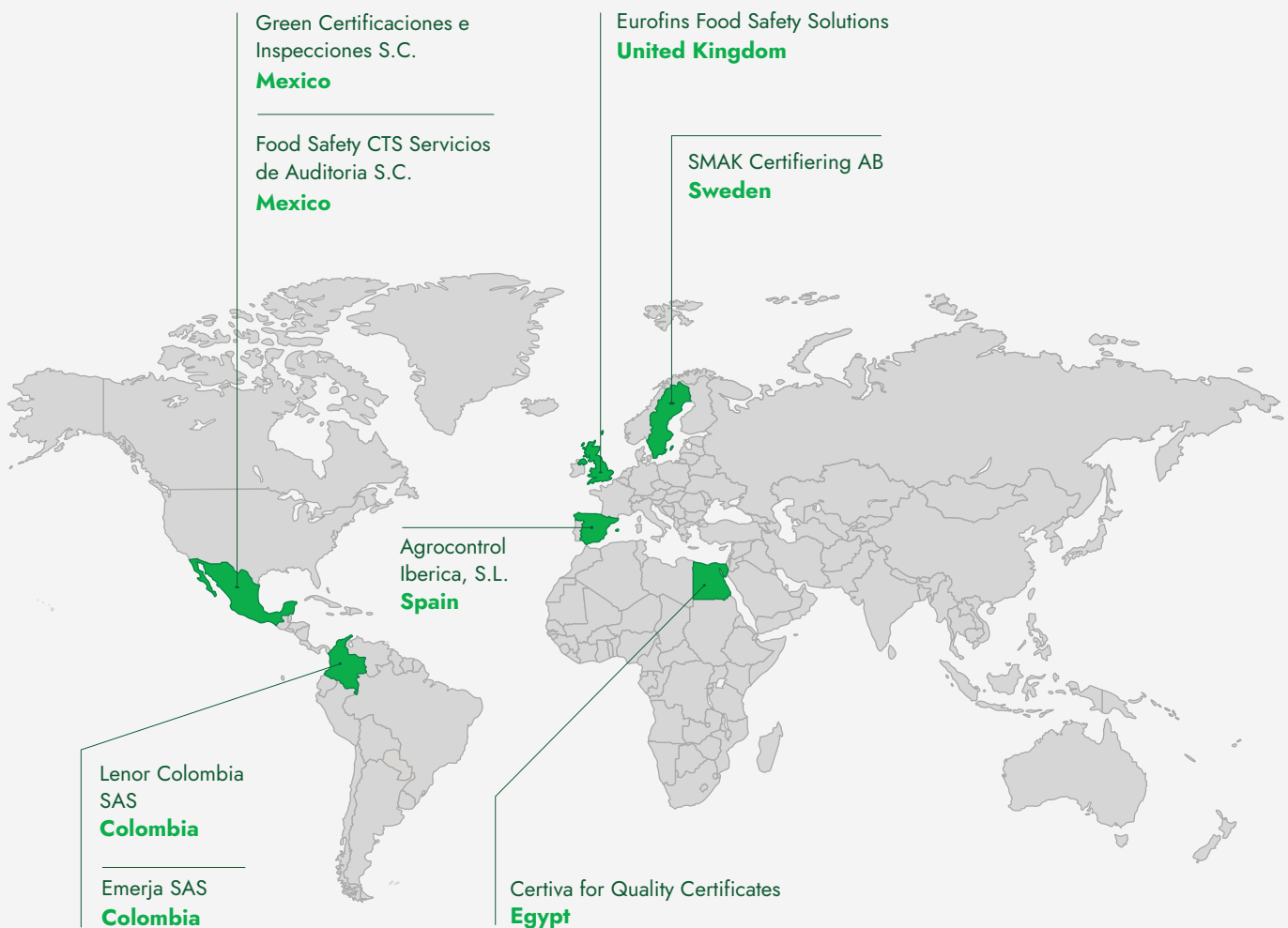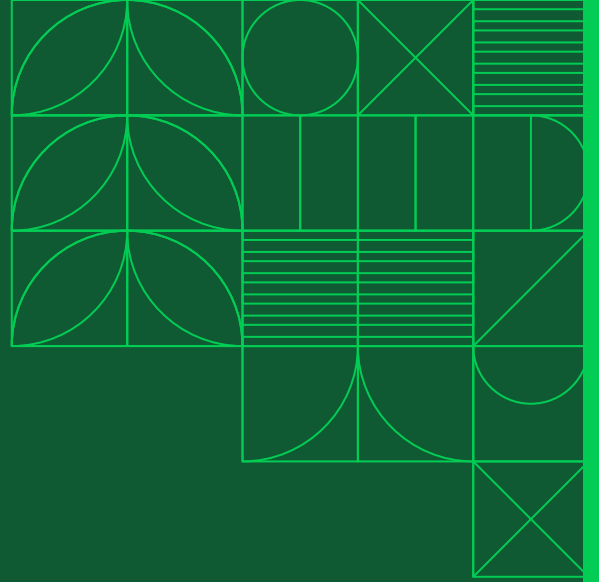**Periodic audits to determine** whether certification bodies are conducting the certification process correctly

In addition to annual supervision by their own accreditation bodies according to the international rules for product certification (ISO/IEC 17065), **all GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies (CBs)** are monitored by GLOBALG.A.P.'s own dedicated team of expert integrity assessors who conduct integrity assessments.

Integrity assessments monitor whether CBs are conducting their certification processes in line with GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents, including the signed license and certification agreement. This improves the consistency of the criteria and quality standards applied by the approved CBs.

What kind of assessments are carried out?

- On-site assessment of CB offices

- Off-site assessment of CB offices (remote)

- On-site assessment of producers under certification

- Off-site assessment of producers under certification (remote)

- Off-site assessment of add-on checklists (document checks)

- Witnessing CB audits of registered producers or producers with certified production processes

- Assessment of businesses with Chain of Custody (CoC) certification (on-site and off-site)

How do we determine where to conduct integrity assessments?

Our dedicated team of expert integrity assessors conducts both on-site and off-site (remote) integrity assessments that are either **targeted** (as a result of a complaint investigation or risk assessment), **random** (to ensure that a wide range of CBs are checked), or **based on the referral of the Integrity Surveillance Committee (ISC).**

In general, CB offices are assessed approximately every three years.

How do Integrity Surveillance Committee evaluations work?

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1   **If evidence from one or more integrity assessment** reports shows that a CB has demonstrated inadequate performance or has failed to demonstrate improvement following previous assessments, the CB Integrity team proposes the case for ISC review.

2   **The CB will be informed** about the decision to forward their case to the ISC and will be invited to respond with a written statement within 14 days of notification.

3   **Integrity assessment reports and CB responses are anonymized** before delivery to the ISC and do not include any identifiable information such as the producer's/CB's name, GLOBALG.A.P. identification numbers (e.g., GLOBALG.A.P. Number), or country. This ensures an impartial evaluation.

4   **The ISC reviews each case** and proposes sanctions for the CB Integrity team to enforce.

5   **CBs have the opportunity to appeal** within five working days of being notified of the ISC decision.

6   **The ISC evaluates all possible appeals** during two dedicated virtual meetings. In the event of a second appeal against the confirmation of a sanction by the ISC, an arbitration procedure is followed as outlined in the license and certification agreement. Sanctions by the ISC cannot be lifted until after the case has been re-evaluated by ISC members.
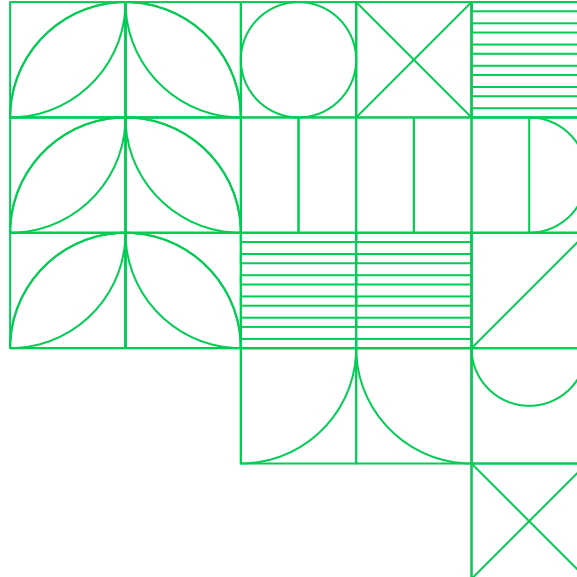
In 2024, the **ISC reviewed 22 cases** and requested 29 CB office and 70 producer re-assessment days. Throughout the year, 29.5 CB office and 51 producer re-assessment days were performed, according to prior ISC requests.

Good to know:

Potential sanctions for administrative issues are listed in the **GLOBALG.A.P. CB sanction catalog** and potential sanctions for integrity assessments are listed in the **Rules for certification bodies.**

Which solutions are covered by integrity assessments?

Standards

Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA)

IFA for **fruit and vegetables**

IFA for **aquaculture**

IFA for **flowers and ornamentals**

IFA for **hops**

IFA for **combinable crops**

IFA for **plant propagation material**

IFA for **tea**

GLOBALG.A.P. **Chain of Custody (CoC)**

Compound Feed Manufacturing (CFM)

Produce Handling Assurance (PHA)

Harmonized Produce Safety Standard (HPSS)

Add-ons

GLOBALG.A.P. Risk Assessment on Social Practice (GRASP)

Sustainable Program for Irrigation and Groundwater Use (SPRING)

Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule add-on (FSMA PSR add-on)

NON-GM/"Ohne Gentechnik"

+ Selected integrity assessments into **other party private solutions** as agreed.

Integrity assessments of **benchmarked schemes** are also carried out intermittently to ensure the schemes are implemented as intended and are operating at equivalent levels of integrity.

Choosing the certification bodies

In 2024, **122 CBs** were assessed by the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program in a total of **318 different assessments**

49% of **CB office** assessments in 2024 were targeted

17%
49%
34%

● Targeted ● Integrity Surveillance Committee ● Random
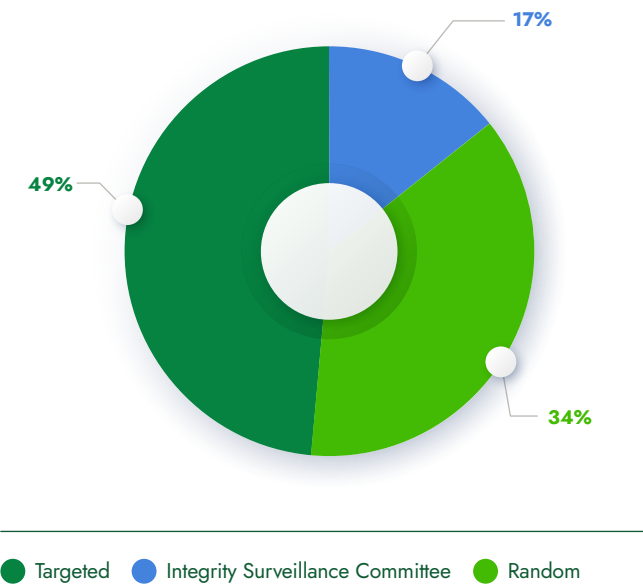
67% of **producer premises** assessed in 2024 were selected for risk-based or complaint reasons (targeted)

18%
15%
67%

● Targeted ● Integrity Surveillance Committee ● Random
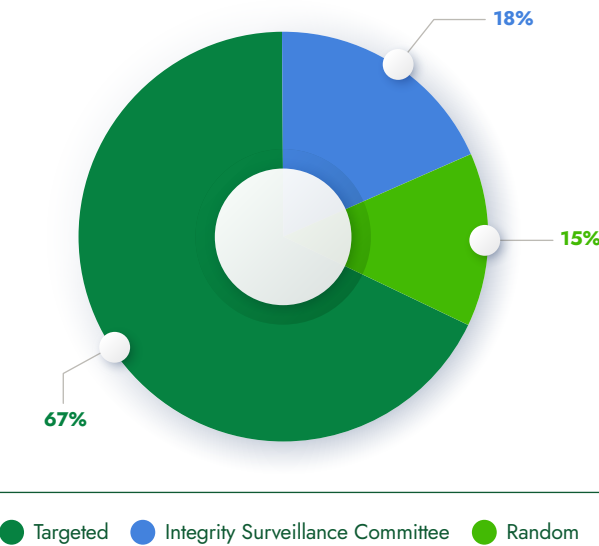
Activity	Number of CBs assessed per activity
On-site assessment of CB offices	65
Off-site assessment of CB offices (remote)	18
On-site assessment of producers under certification	89
Off-site assessment of producers under certification (remote)	5
Off-site assessment of add-on checklist (document checks)	6
Witnessing CB audits of registered producers or producers with certified production processes	1
Assessment of businesses with Chain of Custody (CoC) certification (on-site and off-site)	23
Total	**207***

*Some CBs received more than one type of assessment.

Integrity assessments by standard and assessment type

Most integrity assessments (279 of 318) were related to **Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA)** as the most widely implemented GLOBALG.A.P. standard.

189 assessments were related to GRASP (as well as IFA) as the most widely implemented GLOBALG.A.P. add-on.

In 2024, the 318 different integrity assessments resulted in 479 assessment days. Almost 300 of these days were spent assessing producers and CoC companies on site.

Activity	Total number of assessment days	Scheme/standard	Number of assessments	Including GRASP / another add-on
On-site assessment of CB offices	125	IFA	65	
		GRASP		57
		Other party private solution		23
Off-site assessment of CB offices (remote)	48.5	IFA	18	
		GRASP		14
		Other party private solution		2
On-site assessment of producers under certification	272.5	IFA	185	
		HPSS	3	
		IFA + GRASP		105
		IFA + other party private solution		28
		Benchmarked schemes (NZGAP + MPS-GAP + PSS)	4	
Off-site assessment of producers under certification (remote)	5	IFA	10	
		IFA + GRASP		8
Off-site assessment of add-on checklists (document checks)	20.5	GRASP	5	5
		Other party private solution	1	1
Assessment of businesses with Chain of Custody (CoC) certification (on-site and off-site)	24.5	Chain of Custody (CoC)	26	
Witnessing CB audits of registered producers or producers with certified production processes	1	IFA	1	1
Total	**479**		**318**	**244**

Breakdown of integrity assessment days in 2024

In 2024, the number of days of integrity assessments carried out continued at a high level, surpassing the number conducted in three of the previous five years.

DAYS SPENT ON INTEGRITY ASSESSMENTS (2020–2024)

307.5 days in **30 countries***	**358.5** days in **29 countries**	**420** days in **44 countries**	**480.5** days in **44 countries**	**479** days in **43 countries**
2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
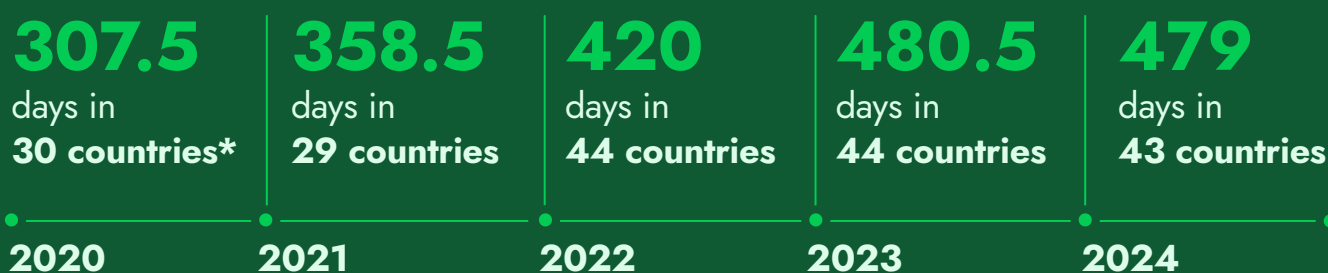
*****The COVID-19 pandemic outbreak** caused a reduction in assessment days in 2020.

The majority of integrity assessment days were spent **visiting producers on site**

0.2%
Witnessing CB audits of registered producers or producers with certified production processes; **1 day**

4.2%
Off-site assessment of add-on checklists (document checks); **20.5 days**

26.1%
On-site assessment of CB offices; **125 days**

2.4%
PR Emergency procedure; **11.5 days**

57%
On-site assessment of producers under certification; **272.5 days**

10.1%
Off-site assessment of CB offices (remote); **48.5 days**

The number of integrity assessment days **is relative to the number of certification bodies**
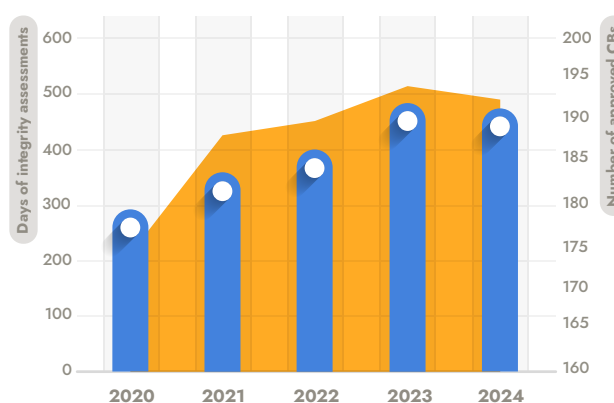
- Number of approved CBs
- Days of integrity assessments

2024

193 CBs **479 days**

Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) **Producer integrity assessments by Option** (on-site, off-site, and witness audits)

151

160.5

49

97

3

3

200
150
100
50
0

Option 1

Option 2

Option 3

Option 1 assessments target one producer
Option 2 assessments target producer groups

● **Number of assessment days**
● **Number of assessments**
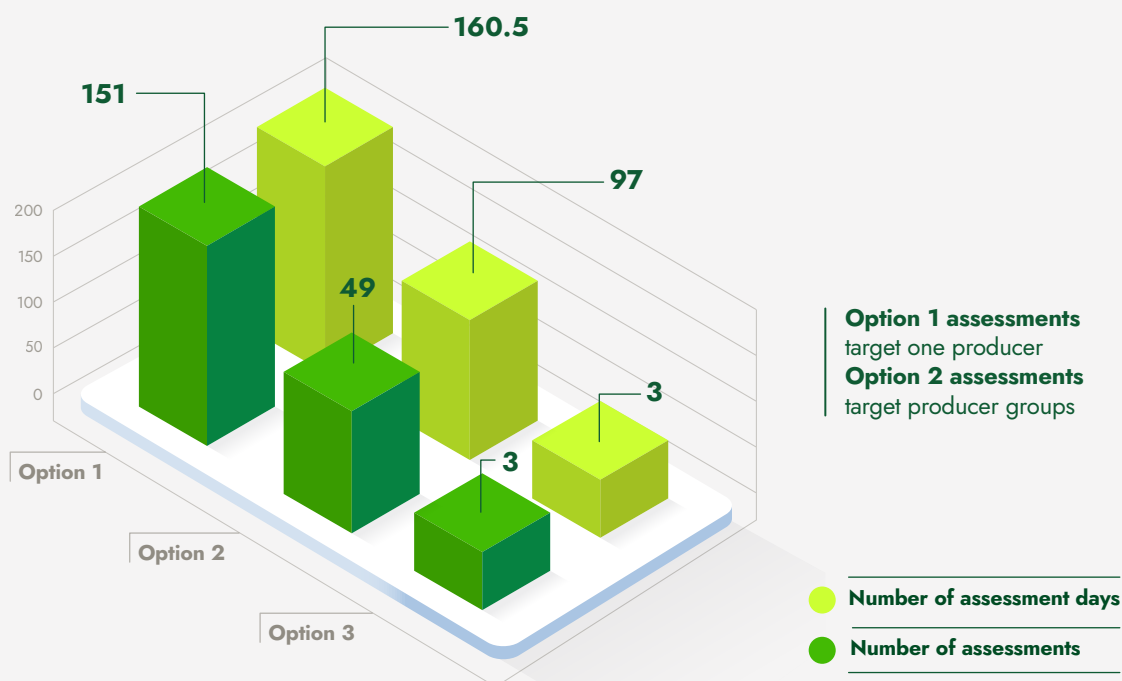
Good to know:

Option 1 certification is for individual producers with a single site or multiple sites that do not function as separate legal entities.

Option 2 certification is for producer groups (cooperatives, etc.) where the legal entity of the group is the certificate holder once certified. The group must implement a quality management system (QMS).

Option 3 is equivalent to Option 1 (individual producers) but for benchmarked schemes.

On-site integrity assessments of producers and businesses broken down by product category

Most producer/business integrity assessments were for **IFA for fruit and vegetables, as our biggest product category.**

84.4%
IFA for fruit and vegetables; **184**

1.4%
CoC for aquaculture; **3**

10.5%
CoC for fruit and vegetables; **23**

1.4%
HPSS for fruits and vegetables; **3**

0.9%
IFA for aquaculture; **2**

0.5%
IFA for combinable crops; **1**

0.9%
IFA for flowers and ornamentals; **2**
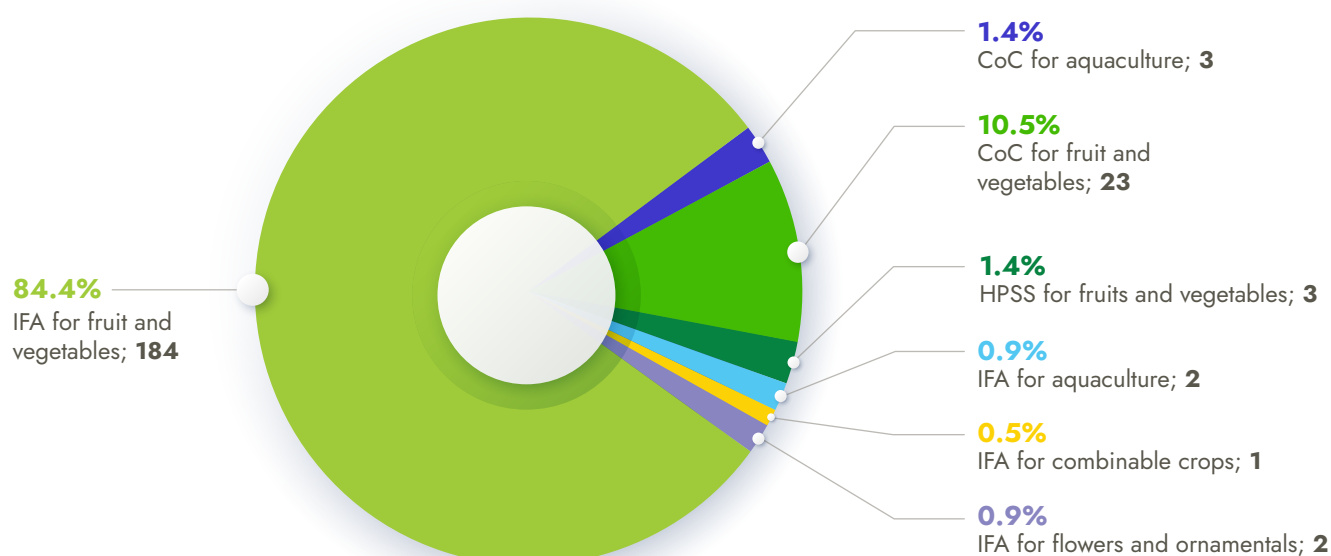
Integrity assessments locations in 2024

Key:

- <5 days
- 5 to 10 days
- 10 to 15 days
- 15 to 20 days
- 20+ days
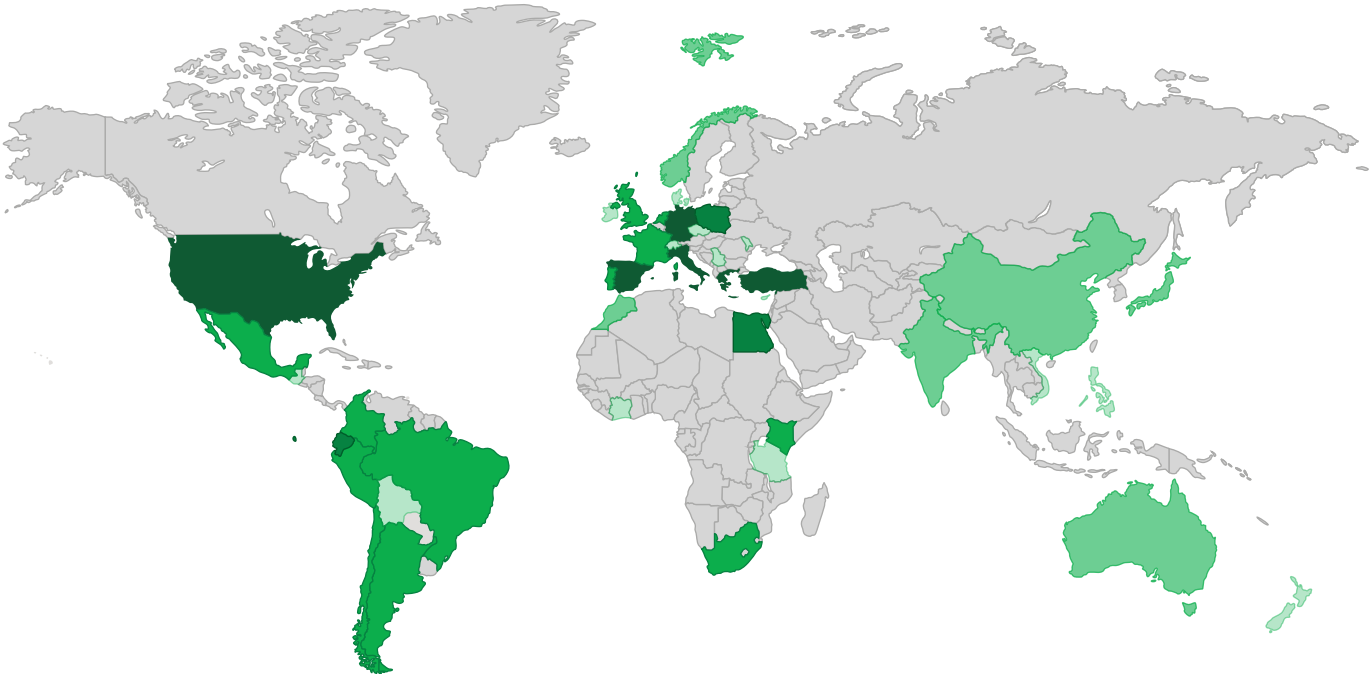
Country	Number of days
Argentina	12
Australia	6.5
Austria	2
Belgium	4
Bolivia	3
Brazil	10
Chile	14.5
China	8
Colombia	14
Cyprus	2
Czech Republic	2
Denmark	4
Ecuador	16
Egypt	15
France	13.5
Germany	26
Greece	21
Guatemala	4
India	9.5
Ireland	4
Italy	23
Ivory Coast	3
Japan	9
Kenya	15

Country	Number of days
Mexico	13
Moldova	4
Morocco	6
Netherlands	11
New Zealand	5
Norway	6
Peru	13.5
Philippines	5
Poland	18
Portugal	10.5
Serbia	3
South Africa	11
Spain	50.5
Switzerland	2.5
Tanzania	4
Turkey	21
United Kingdom	10.5
United States	39.5
Vietnam	4
Total	**479**

Top 15 countries by number of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification

1. Spain
2. Italy
3. Greece
4. India
5. France
6. Germany
7. Peru
8. Netherlands
9. Chile
10. Kenya
11. Poland
12. Portugal
13. Turkey
14. Colombia
15. Austria

Comparing the locations of integrity assessments to the countries with the most producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification

The most integrity assessment days were spent in Spain (50.5 days). Spain is also the country with the highest number of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification in the world (48,577 as of 31/12/2024).

The countries with the next highest number of integrity assessment days **(USA, Germany,** and **Italy)** are also in the top 20 countries by number of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification.

Ecuador, Egypt, and **Mexico** are the only countries assessed in 2024 which do not fall in the top 15 countries worldwide by number of producers under certification.

Top 15 countries by number of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification

1.	Spain	**6.**	Germany	**11.**	Poland
2.	Italy	**7.**	Peru	**12.**	Portugal
3.	Greece	**8.**	Netherlands	**13.**	Turkey
4.	India	**9.**	Chile	**14.**	Colombia
5.	France	**10.**	Kenya	**15.**	Austria

Integrity assessments days

Mexico: 13
Peru: 13.5
France: 13.5
Colombia: 14
Chile: 14.5
Kenya: 15
Egypt: 15
Ecuador: 16
Poland: 18
Turkey: 21
Greece: 21
Italy: 23
Germany: 26
USA: 39.5
Spain: 50.5
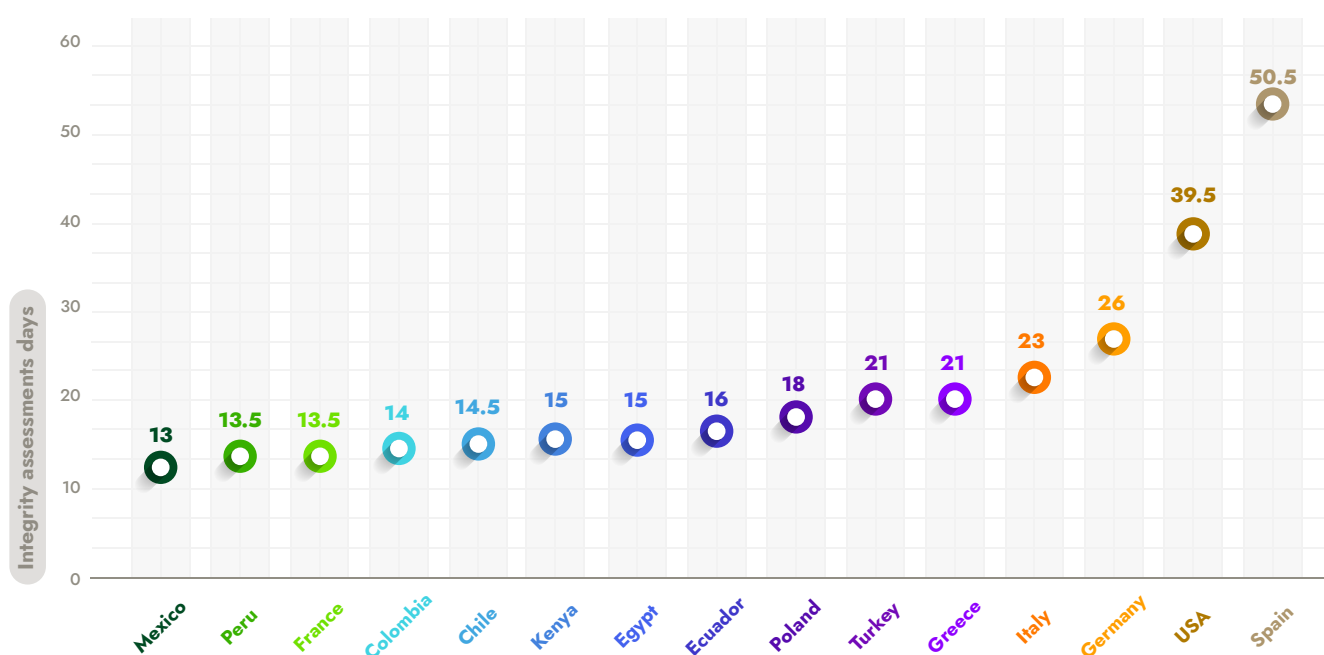
How are integrity assessment **results categorized?**

Integrity assessments are classified into one of five classes. These results are later used to form part of the performance rating system for GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs, known as key performance indicators (KPIs).

Integrity assessment **results in 2024**

6% —
59% —
33% —
2%
0.0%

— 8%
— 48%
— 40%
— 4%
— 0.0%

CB office assessments | Producer assessments

● Class 1   ● Class 2   ● Class 3   ● Class 4   ● Class 5
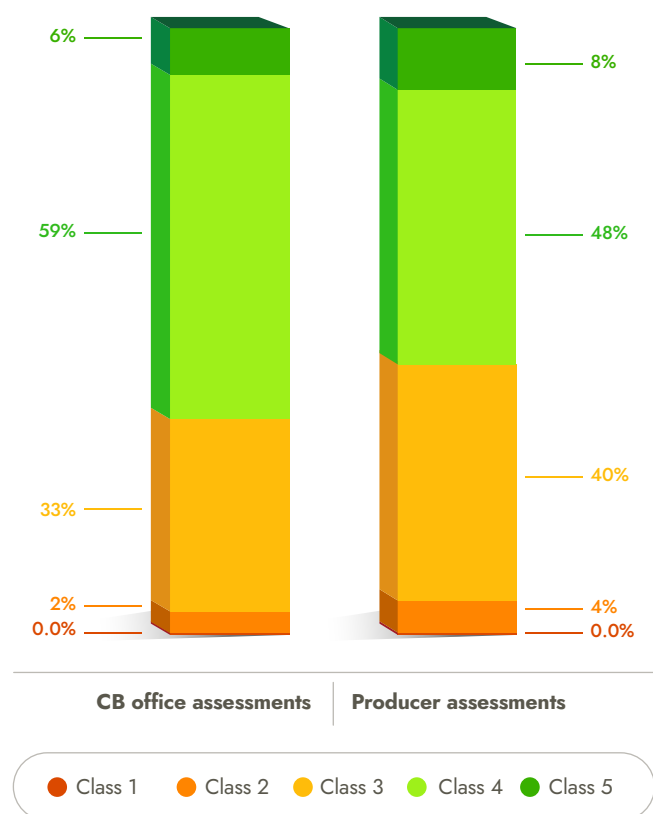
Integrity results **categories:**

Class 5

Excellent performance. No incidents detected. The CB shows a high level of implementation of the GLOBALG.A.P. requirements.

Class 4

Good performance. No systematic and serious non-conformances found.

Class 3

Improvement is required.

Class 2

Poor performance. The CB requires immediate and significant improvement.

Class 1

Unacceptable performance which calls the CB's overall competency in question.

Good to know:

Class 1 usually results in a red card, meaning the CB is restricted to conducting subsequent audits only; they cannot register new clients. The restrictions are in place until further investigation through integrity re-assessments provide evidence of improvement. If there is no improvement, the contract with the CB is cancelled.

Evolution of assessment outcomes **(2008—2024)**

All-time trend for the outcomes of **CB office assessments**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
● Class 5	2%	2%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	7%	6%	9%	9%	9%	1.5%	6%
● Class 4	15%	11%	14%	6%	20%	37%	46%	56%	33%	50%	42%	52%	68%	61%	47%	41%	59%
● Class 3	53%	59%	45%	75%	73%	60%	50%	41%	67%	40%	42%	37%	23%	30%	39%	51.5%	33%
● Class 2	28%	26%	41%	19%	0%	3%	4%	3%	0%	5%	9%	5%	0%	0%	5%	4.5%	4%
● Class 1	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1.5%	1%
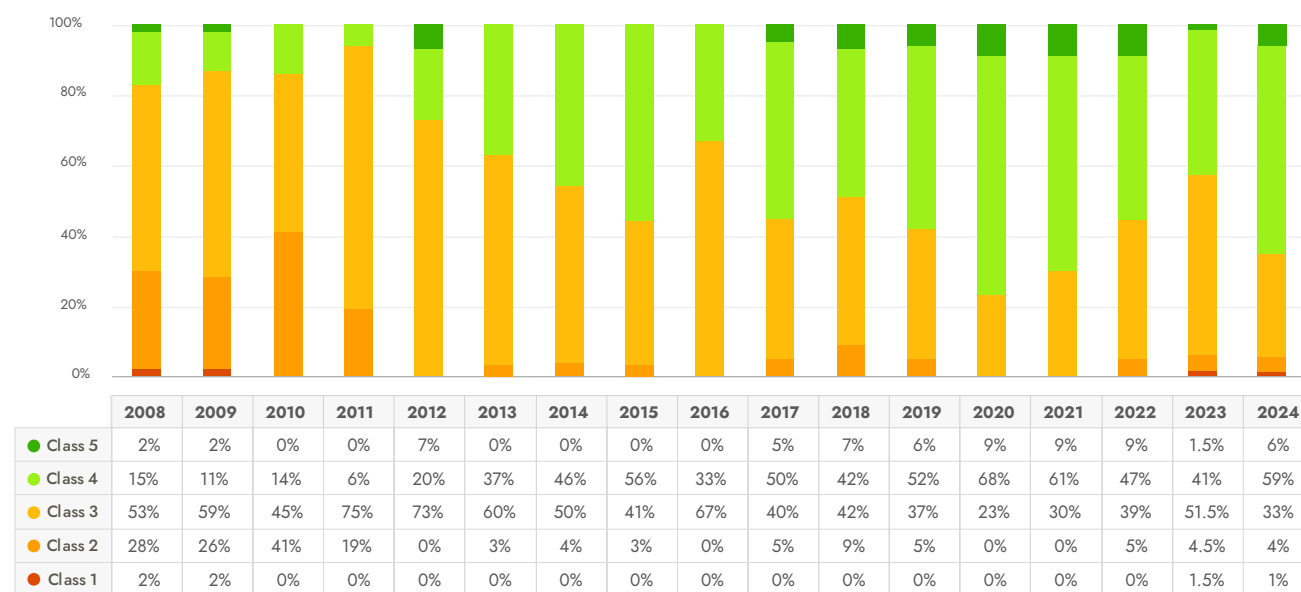
All-time trend for the outcomes of **producer assessments**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
● Class 5	1%	1%	0%	0%	2%	4%	4%	1%	4%	6%	3%	16%	19%	15%	8%	10%	8%
● Class 4	11%	25%	16%	19%	18%	38%	48%	55%	45%	56%	41%	63%	63%	56%	53%	49%	48%
● Class 3	56%	46%	57%	55%	74%	55%	45%	39%	47%	36%	50%	19%	13%	26%	35%	34%	40%
● Class 2	25%	25%	26%	26%	6%	3%	3%	5%	4%	2%	6%	2%	5%	3%	4%	6.6%	4%
● Class 1	7%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.4%	0%
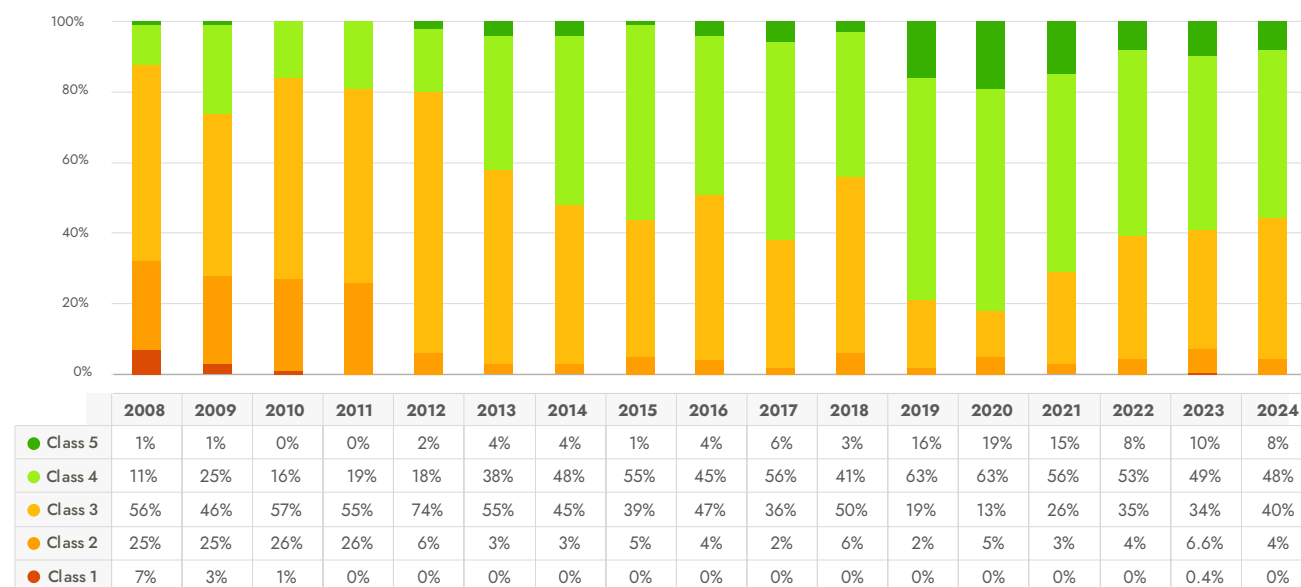
Good to know:

Different CBs and producers are assessed each year. These results therefore only provide a snapshot representation of worldwide CB performance over the years and do not show a comparison of results from the same CBs over the years.

How is **unsatisfactory performance** in integrity assessments addressed?
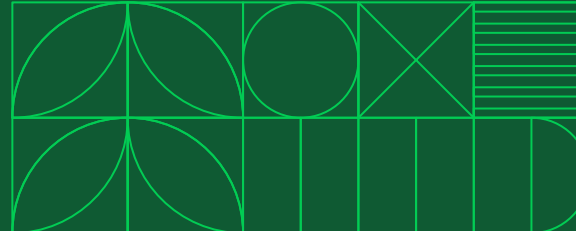
CBs with a low score which fail to demonstrate improvements or corrective actions based on integrity assessments may be sanctioned.

Certification body sanctions applied **(2023–2024)**

Legend: ● 2023 ● 2024

Chart values by category:
- First warnings: 3 (2023), 5 (2024)
- Second warnings: 7 (2023), 4 (2024)
- Yellow cards: 7 (2023), 4 (2024)
- Red cards: 2 (2023), 2 (2024)
- Contract termination: 2 (2023), 2 (2024)

In 2024
Two CBs received a red card and had their contract terminated.

CB sanctions for non conformances detected in integrity assessments

1 **First warning —** The CB and its accreditation body are informed of the need for improvement. Potential improvements are checked by further reassessments.

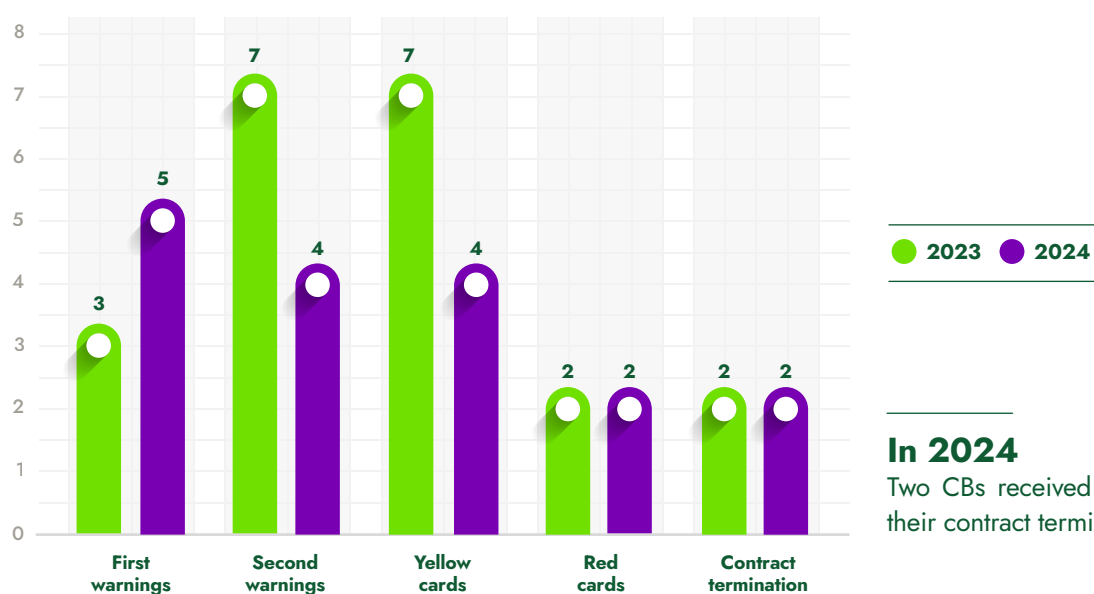**2** **Second warning —** The CB and its accreditation body are informed of the need for further improvement. Potential improvements are checked by further reassessments.

3 **Yellow card —** The CB has received two warnings and has failed to demonstrate sufficient improvement as detailed in the GLOBALG.A.P. CB sanction catalog. The Integrity Surveillance Committee (ISC) will rule on the next steps for reassessment. The CB and its accreditation body are informed. The sanction is published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website.

4 **Red card —** The CB and its accreditation body are informed. The sanction is published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. The CB is not allowed to issue new certificates. The ISC cannot lift this sanction until confidence in the CB's operation is restored following re-assessment.

5 **Contract termination —** The CB and its accreditation body are informed. The sanction is published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. The license and certification agreements are terminated.

Good to know:
Sanctioning steps are not necessarily consecutive. In the case of demonstrated fraud or severe breach of normative requirements, the highest sanctions may be applied immediately.

How do we rate overall certification body performance?

Key performance indicators (KPIs) measure the performance of approved certification bodies (CBs) and present the information to the public in a simple format. The KPIs were developed together with the CBs and include scores from:
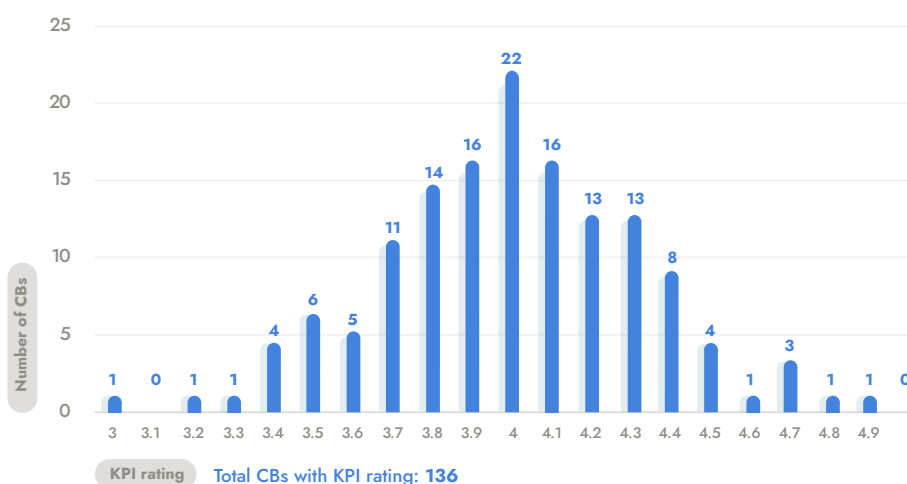
→ **Integrity assessment results:** Uses the classifications (1 to 5) received in integrity assessments in the last three years. This includes head-office performance, auditing quality, and reporting quality.

→ **Operational rating:** Includes criteria on audit processing time, audit timing, database management, complaint management, administrative management, and commitment.

These criteria are reflected in a five-star rating system, with one star for poorest performance and five stars for best performance. The KPI ratings are published on the GLOBALG.A.P. website and are updated every six months.

43% of CBs with a KPI rating are rated 4 stars and above as of 31 December 2024.

The majority of CBs had a **KPI rating between 3.9 and 4.1 in 2024**

Please note, traditional rounding rules (to the nearest decimal point) have been applied.

KPI rating	Number of CBs
3	1
3.1	0
3.2	1
3.3	1
3.4	4
3.5	6
3.6	5
3.7	11
3.8	14
3.9	16
4	22
4.1	16
4.2	13
4.3	13
4.4	8
4.5	4
4.6	1
4.7	3
4.8	1
4.9	0

Total CBs with KPI rating: **136**

KPI rating	Interpretation
★★★★★	Excellent performance
★★★★☆	Good performance
★★★☆☆	Some improvement necessary
★★☆☆☆	Major improvement necessary
★☆☆☆☆	Unacceptable performance

Good to know:

Some of the most recently approved CBs may not have a KPI rating due to there not yet being enough evidence available within the evaluation criteria to establish an overall KPI rating. This does not mean poor performance.

What is the complaint investigation procedure?

Enabling a fast and thorough response system for complaints

Complaints received by the certification body (CB) Integrity team are recorded, analyzed, and investigated by a dedicated complaint management officer.

Reports regarding a breach of standard requirements by GLOBALG.A.P. certification system users — including breaches related to maximum residue limits (MRLs) — can be made via the complaint form on the GLOBALG.A.P. website. Complaints may also be received directly from stakeholders or the media.

If a potential non-compliance with the standard requirements is traced to a producer, producer group, or company with certified production processes, the CB Integrity team requires the corresponding CB and certificate holder to refute the claim. This can be done by verifying and providing evidence of compliance with the relevant GLOBALG.A.P. standard requirements.

CBs investigate the complaints through document reviews and, if needed, unannounced integrity assessments. They must then report all findings and actions taken to the CB Integrity team within a defined time period.
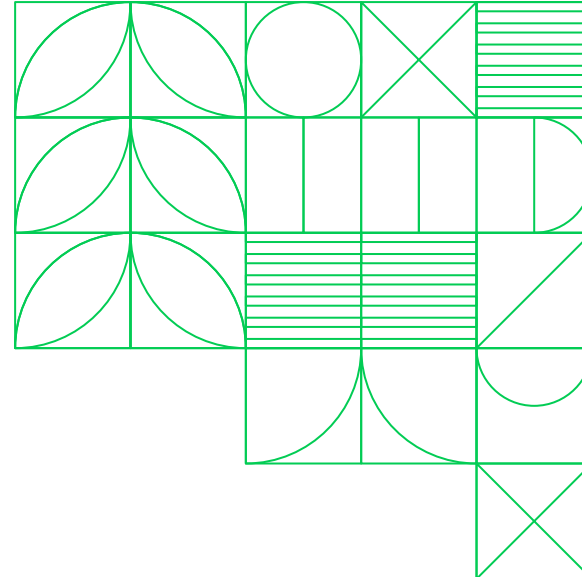
How are complaints **processed?**

Complaint issued to GLOBALG.A.P.

⊘

Email with receipt confirmation is sent to the complainant within two working days.

⊘

CB Integrity team **investigates the complaint.**

⊘

Email with interim report or additional information request is sent to the complainant if necessary.

⊘

Email with closing report is sent to the complainant.

⊘

Feedback
- **If the report is satisfactory,** the complaint is closed.
- **If the report is unsatisfactory,** the CB Integrity team returns to the investigation stage.
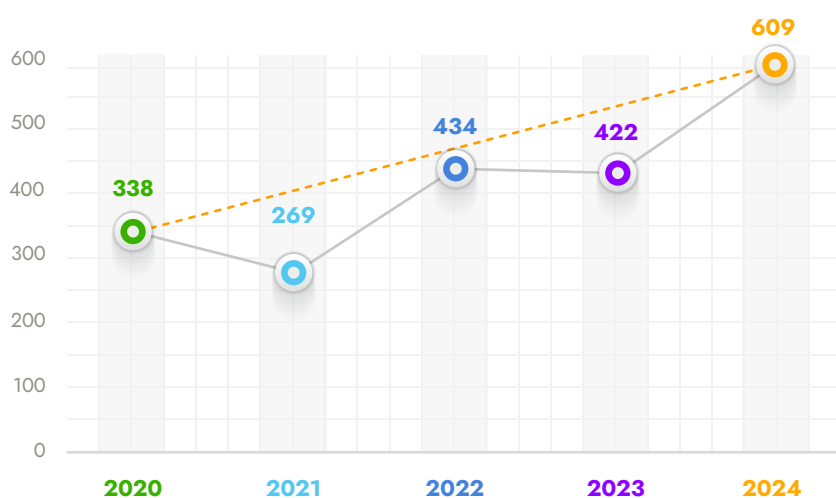
Complaint closed

Good to know:

Complaint information is used to facilitate the selection and scheduling of integrity assessments. This may result in targeted integrity assessments for on-site investigation and follow-up.

How many complaints were received in 2024?

Number of **complaints processed**

A total of 609 complaints were received during 2024, marking a 44.3% increase in comparison with 2023. Of the total received, 479 were resolved and 44 rejected. Complaints rejected by the CB Integrity team typically include those that are outside the scope of the relevant producer — for example, a complaint about social issues where the producer is not GRASP assessed.

437 producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certification were involved in the complaints. This represents 0.2% of all producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certification worldwide — over 195,600 at the end of 2024.

Of the 437 investigated, 14 producers were suspended, 7 had their certification cancelled, and one producer group member was deregistered from their respective producer group. The remaining 415 producers maintained their certification.

Number of countries with GLOBALG.A.P. certification and **number of countries with complaint investigations**
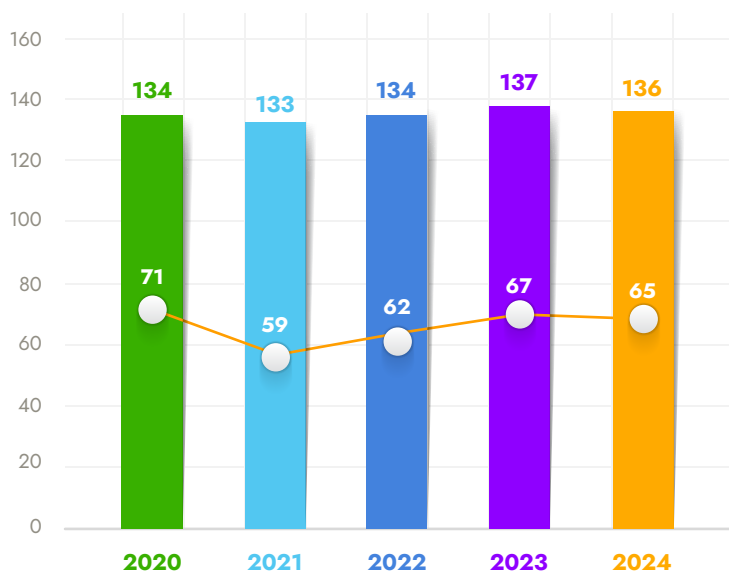
In 2024, complaints were investigated in 65 countries (of 136 total countries with active GLOBALG.A.P. certificates). This represents a 1.5% decrease in comparison with 2023. There were four complaints where the country could not be defined due to incomplete traceability information.

The top three countries for complaint investigations were **Germany, Spain,** and **Italy**. Spain and Italy represent the top two countries by number of producers with certified production processes worldwide, while Germany also features in the top six.

With GLOBALG.A.P. certification **active in 136 countries worldwide at the end of 2024**, the investigations demonstrate both the scope of GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program oversight globally as well as comprehensive stakeholder engagement in the robustness of the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system.

Number of **brand integrity issues investigated**
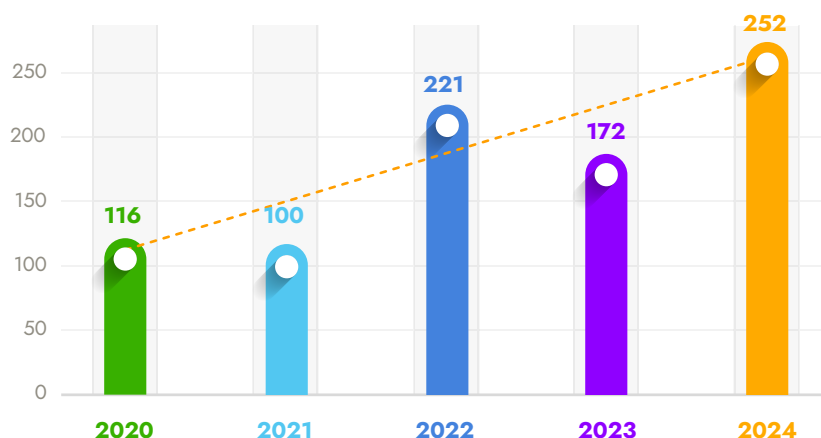
Brand integrity investigations include misuses of the GLOBALG.A.P./GGN label brands, logos, and identification numbers (GLOBALG.A.P. Number [GGN], GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody [CoC] Number, etc.).

A total of 252 brand integrity issues were investigated in 2024, marking an increase of 46.5% in comparison with 2023. The majority of these cases involve the misuse of GLOBALG.A.P. trademarks or certification claims by producers and traders without valid GLOBALG.A.P. certification.

The "GLOBALG.A.P. trademarks use: Policy and guidelines" document became obligatory for all stakeholders making GLOBALG.A.P. claims in June 2023. Compliance with brand rules now forms a part of standard requirements and is checked during the annual CB audit.

Number of **fraudulent certificates identified**
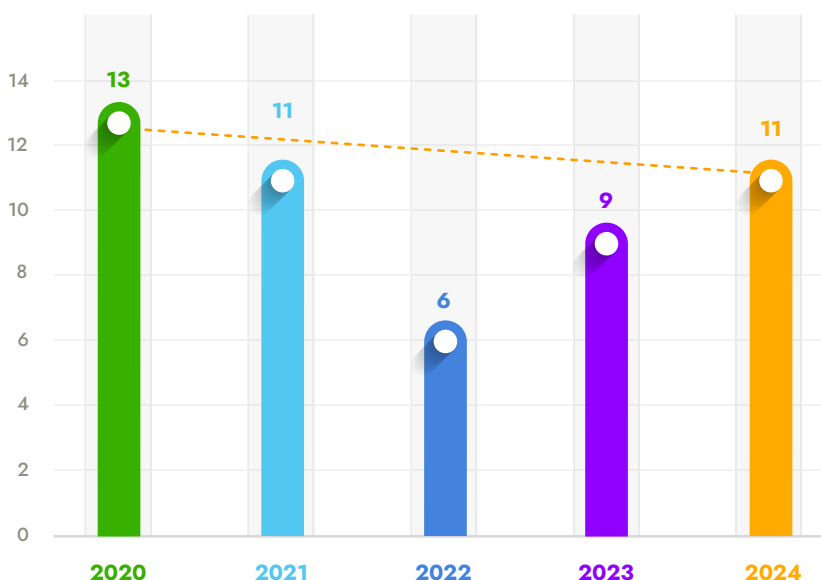
A total of 11 cases involving fraudulent certificates were investigated during 2024, an increase of 22.2% in comparison with 2023.

This includes cases, for example, where a CB issues a certificate without following the certification process (conducting an audit), or where a CB clones the identification number of another producer with certified production processes.

There were 65,140 active certificate holders for GLOBALG.A.P. core solutions at the end of 2024. To mitigate the risk of fraud in the supply chain, the **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems offer a real-time, publicly available verification method for all producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification worldwide.**

How are complaints **categorized?**
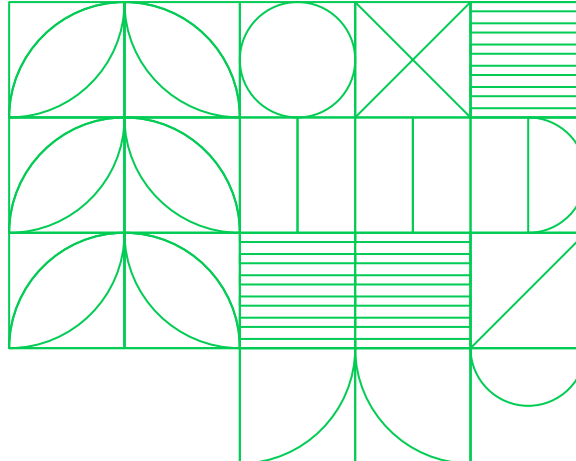
Complaints processed by the CB Integrity team are broken down into **12 categories.** This classification works as a feedback mechanism that aids both the identification of systemic issues as well as the continuous improvement of GLOBALG.A.P. solutions and services.

• Against the standard
Related to issues that are either not currently covered by the GLOBALG.A.P. standards or need certain clarifications in the context of the GLOBALG.A.P. standards.

For example: *The standard does not cover a specific requirement, and the rules or criteria should be improved to include it.*

• Against the administration
Related to the daily operations and tasks of the internal GLOBALG.A.P. departments and teams.

For example: *A stakeholder was not invited to a specific event, a complaint was filed against a specific GLOBALG.A.P. team member, or a CB has not received an official communication.*

• Brand/Logo/GGN misuses
Related to GLOBALG.A.P. logo/trademark/GGN uses which are not compliant with the corresponding requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations.

For example: *A producer without certification is making a certification claim on their website (brand misuse) or a producer with noncertified production processes is using the GGN of another producer with certified production processes (GGN misuse).*

• Business-related issues outside GLOBALG.A.P. jurisdiction
Related to claims that do not fall under the responsibility of GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPLUS GmbH.

For example: *A participant in a CB's private training seminar receives a certificate with their name written incorrectly and asks GLOBALG.A.P. to reissue it with the correct name.*

• CB integrity
Related to the integrity and impartiality of a CB's certification services.

For example: *The CB or its auditors are providing consultancy services to their own customers or performing an audit without GLOBALG.A.P. approval for the relevant standard/add-on/-scope/product category.*

• Fraudulent certificates
Related to certificates that were issued without following proper procedure according to the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations.

For example: *Certificates were issued by a non-approved CB or certificates were issued without an audit.*

• GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents
Related to deviations from the requirements of the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations.

For example: *GLOBALG.A.P. audits were conducted at the wrong time (outside the defined audit window), double registrations were made, or certification decisions were delayed.*

• GGN label
Related to the GGN label or the GGN label portal.

For example: *The requirements for use of the GGN label are not fulfilled.*

• GLOBALG.A.P. database
Related to the daily operation and functionality of the GLOBALG.A.P. database.

For example: *A user is experiencing reduced performance or is unable to access the GLOBALG.A.P. database.*

• Integrity Program
Related to the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program.

For example: *A CB complains about a specific key performan-*

• Other
Related to complaints in which there is not enough information to process and start an investigation, or in which the communication is a request/inquiry rather than a complaint.

For example: *A complaint without valid information (producer name, GGN, etc.) was received.*

• Registered Trainer
Related to the Registered Trainer program that conducts training on GLOBALG.A.P. standards.

For example: *A Registered Trainer is claiming to be a GLOBALG.A.P. representative.*

How were complaints **categorized in 2024?**

0.5%
Outside GLOBALG.A.P. jurisdiction; 3

1.8%
Fraudulent certificates; 11

4.6%
Against the administration; 28

8%
CB integrity; 49

8.7%
GLOBALG.A.P. database; 53

0.2%
Registered Trainer; 5

0.8%
Other; 5

0%
GGN label; 0

1.8%
Against the standard; 11

0.2%
Integrity Program; 1

41.4%
Brand/Logo/GGN misuse; 252

32%
GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents; 195
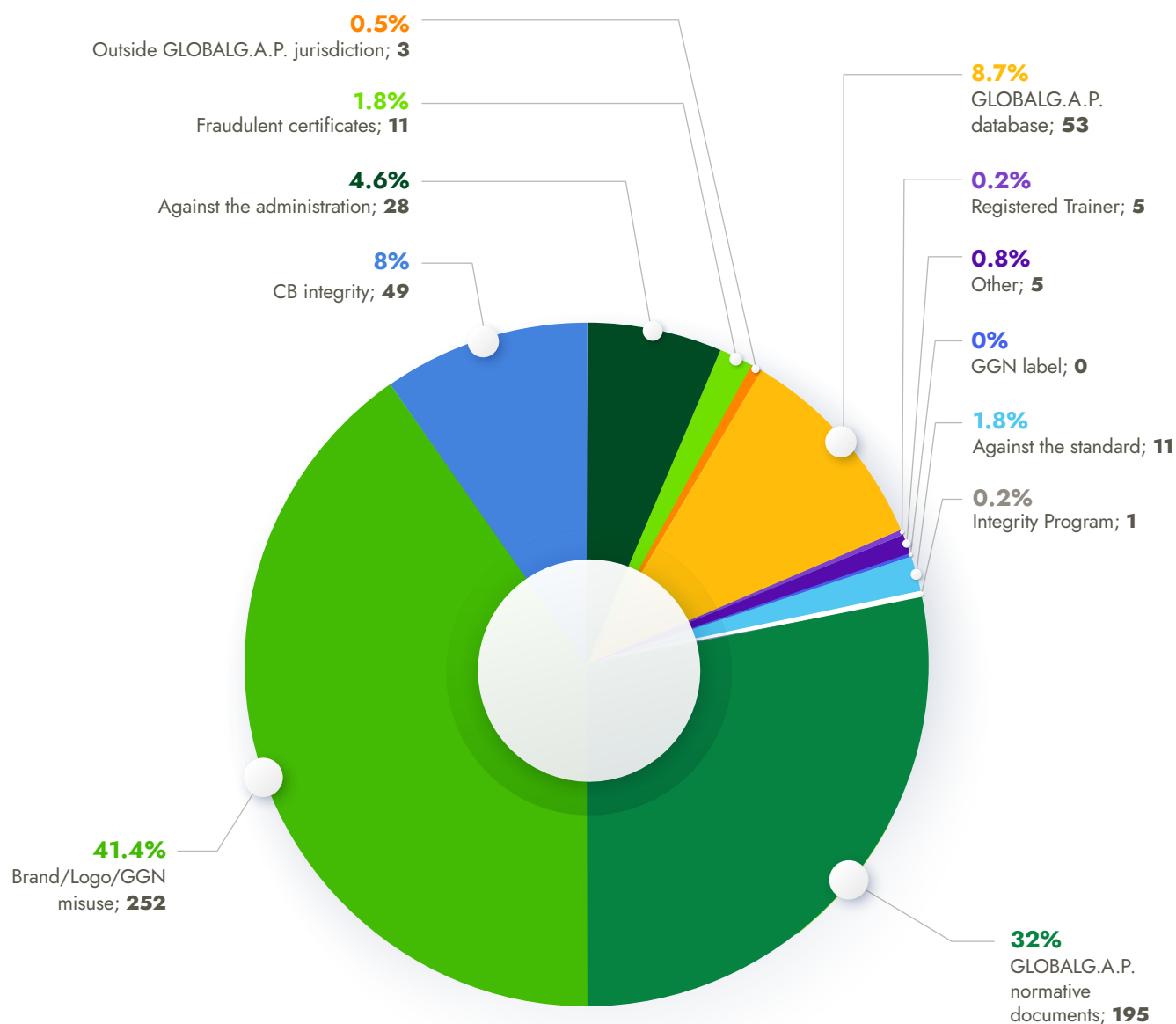
In the top categories for 2024, there were 252 complaints relating to brand, logo, or GLOBALG.A.P. identification number (GGN) misuse (an increase of 46.5% compared to 2023), 195 complaints relating to GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents (a decrease of 3%), and 53 complaints relating to the GLOBALG.A.P. database (an increase of 960%).

Which GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents **received complaints in 2024?**

● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023 ● 2024
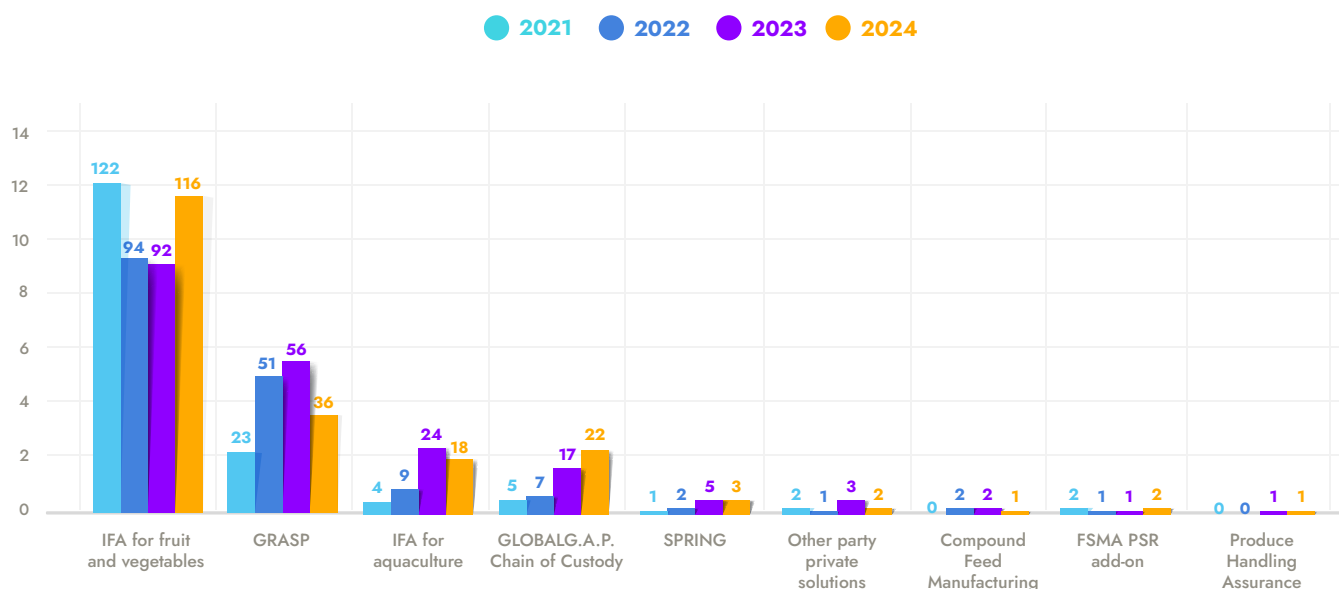
In 2024, the IFA for fruit and vegetables general regulations remained in first place with 116 complaints (a 26% increase compared to 2023). This can be explained by the fact that the majority of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification worldwide are audited to this standard. There were 36 complaints relating to the GRASP general regulations (a 35% decrease), which represents the most widely implemented GLOBALG.A.P. add-on.

Complaints relating to the IFA for aquaculture general regulations decreased in 2024, while complaints relating to the GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC) general regulations increased by 29%.

Number of complaints received in 2024
by complaint topic

Complaint topic	Number
CB integrity	175
Fraud	137
Logo misuse	131
GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems' issues	54
GLOBALG.A.P. other issues	41
Social issues	22
Food safety	21
Environmental issues	10
Traceability issues	10
No complaint	4
Product label	3
Animal welfare	1
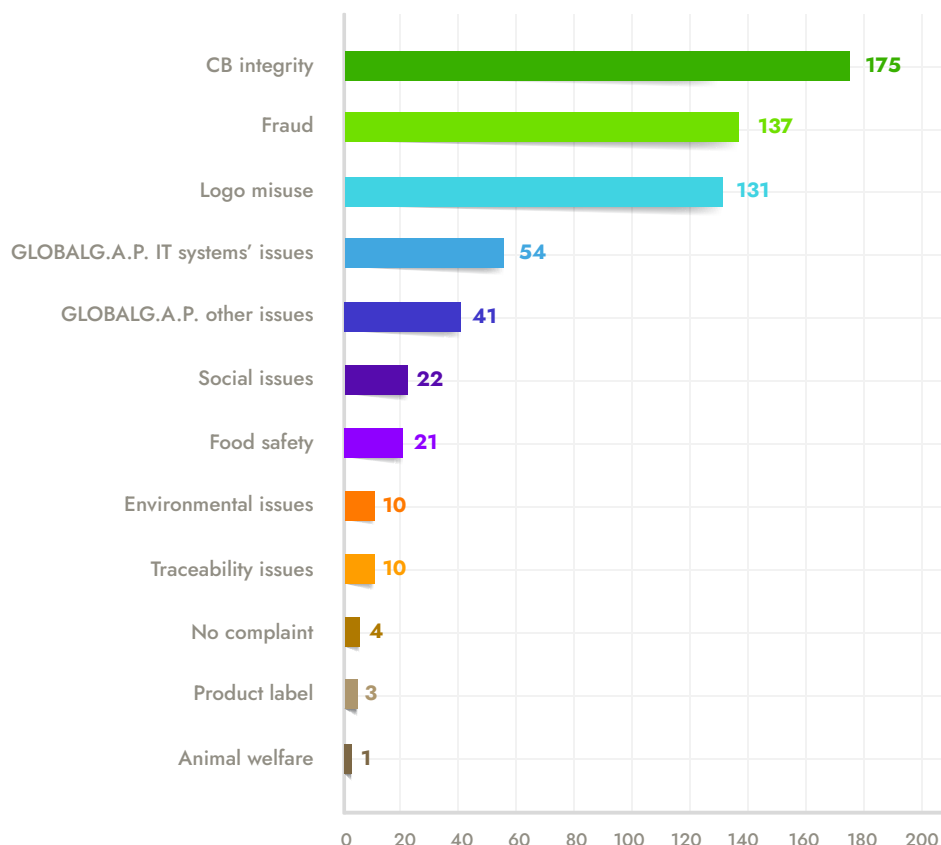
- **Food safety**
  Related to issues that present a food safety risk in preharvest or postharvest production processes and in supply chain management

- **Environmental issues**
  Related to environmental issues in production processes such as water management, soil management, conservation, biodiversity, etc.

- **Social issues**
  Related to social responsibility issues (GRASP requirements), including workers' health, safety, and welfare at farm level

- **Traceability issues**
  Related to issues of product traceability and segregation, as well as supply chain traceability

- **Animal welfare**
  Related to animal welfare issues linked to the GLOBALG.A.P. standards for aquaculture and livestock

- **CB integrity**
  Related to issues concerning the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations, CB independence, CB auditors' conflicts of interest, etc.

- **GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems' issues**
  Related to issues concerning the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems such as the Database , Validation Service, Audit Online Hub, CB-AT, etc.

- **GLOBALG.A.P. other issues**
  Related to issues concerning the GLOBALG.A.P. administration, standards, website, marketing, training, Integrity Program, Registered Trainers, etc.

- **Logo misuse**
  Related to issues of GLOBALG.A.P. trademark misuse by CBs, registered producers, supply chain companies, etc.

- **Fraud**
  Related to issues of brand integrity such as certification claims, forged certificates, GLOBALG.A.P. trademark misuse by unregistered producers or supply chain companies, etc.

- **Product label**
  Related to non-fraud issues concerning a product label.

- **No complaints**
  Related to business issues outside GLOBALG.A.P.'s jurisdiction, general inquiries received via the complaints process, etc.

Where were complaints **investigated?**

In 2024, complaints were investigated in 65 countries (out of 136 total countries with active GLOBALG.A.P. certificates). There were four complaints where the country of origin could not be defined. Five of the 10 countries with the most investigations in 2024 also feature in the top 10 by number of producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes worldwide.

- ● Investigated in 2024
- ● Investigated in 2023 and 2024
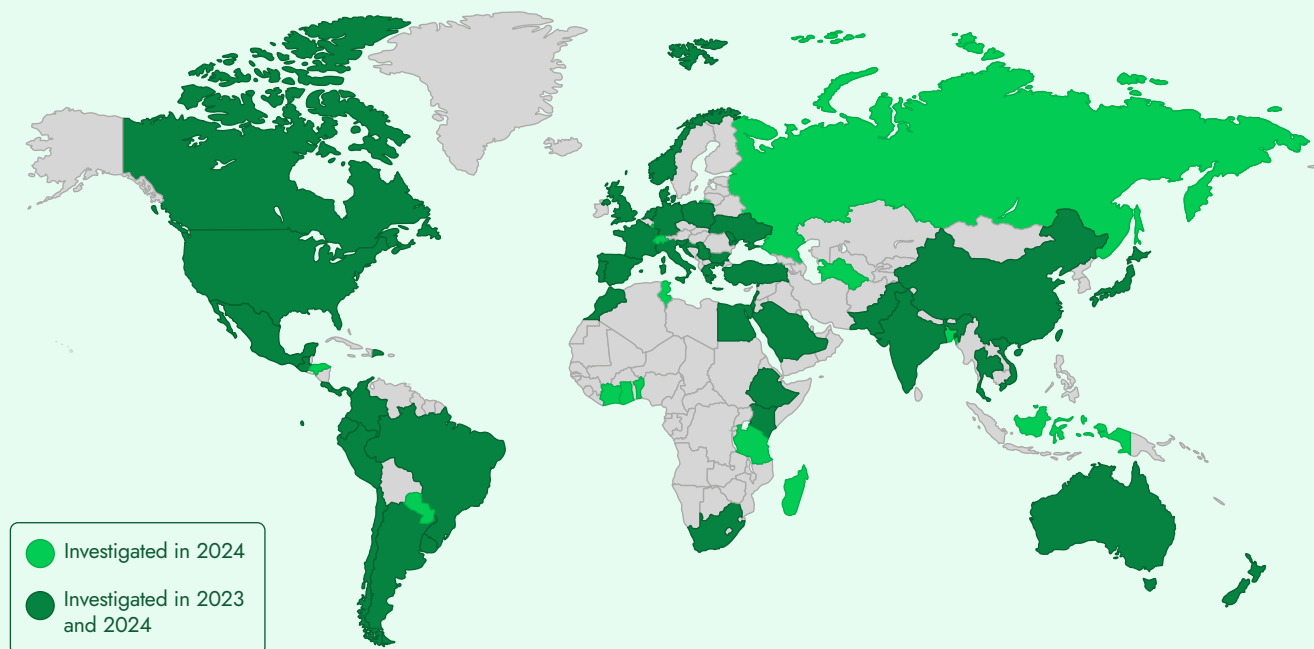
Argentina	**Costa Rica**	**Guatemala**	Luxembourg	Paraguay	Switzerland	**Uruguay**
Australia	**Croatia**	**Honduras**	Madagascar	**Peru**	**Taiwan**	**Vietnam**
Bangladesh	**Denmark**	**India**	**Mexico**	**Poland**	Tanzania	
Benin	**Dominican Republic**	Indonesia	**Moldova**	**Portugal**	**Thailand**	
Brazil	**Ecuador**	**Israel**	**Morocco**	Russia	Tunisia	
Bulgaria	**Egypt**	**Italy**	**Netherlands**	**Saudi Arabia**	**Turkey**	
Canada	**France**	Ivory Coast	**New Zealand**	**Serbia**	Turkmenistan	
Chile	**Germany**	**Japan**	**Norway**	**Slovenia**	**United Kingdom**	
China	Ghana	**Kenya**	**Pakistan**	**South Africa**	**Ukraine**	
Colombia	**Greece**	**Lebanon**	**Panama**	**Spain**	**USA**	

Countries in bold were also investigated in 2023

Most complaints **investigated in 2024**

1. Germany
2. Spain
3. Italy
4. Netherlands
5. Peru
6. Brazil
7. South Africa
8. United Kingdom
9. United States
10. Colombia

Germany 100
Spain 55
Italy 33
Netherlands 31
Peru 29
Brazil 27
South Africa 24
United Kingdom 23
United States 23
Colombia 21
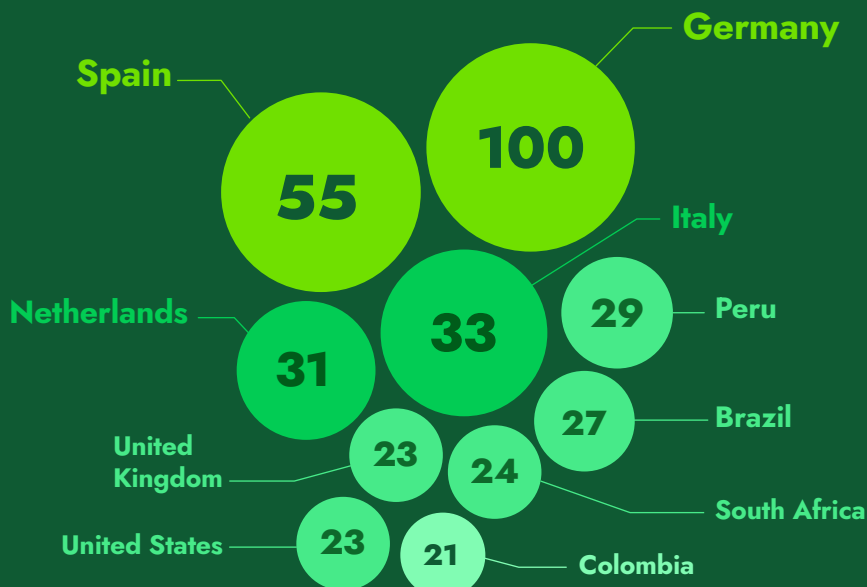
What were the **complaint investigation outcomes?**
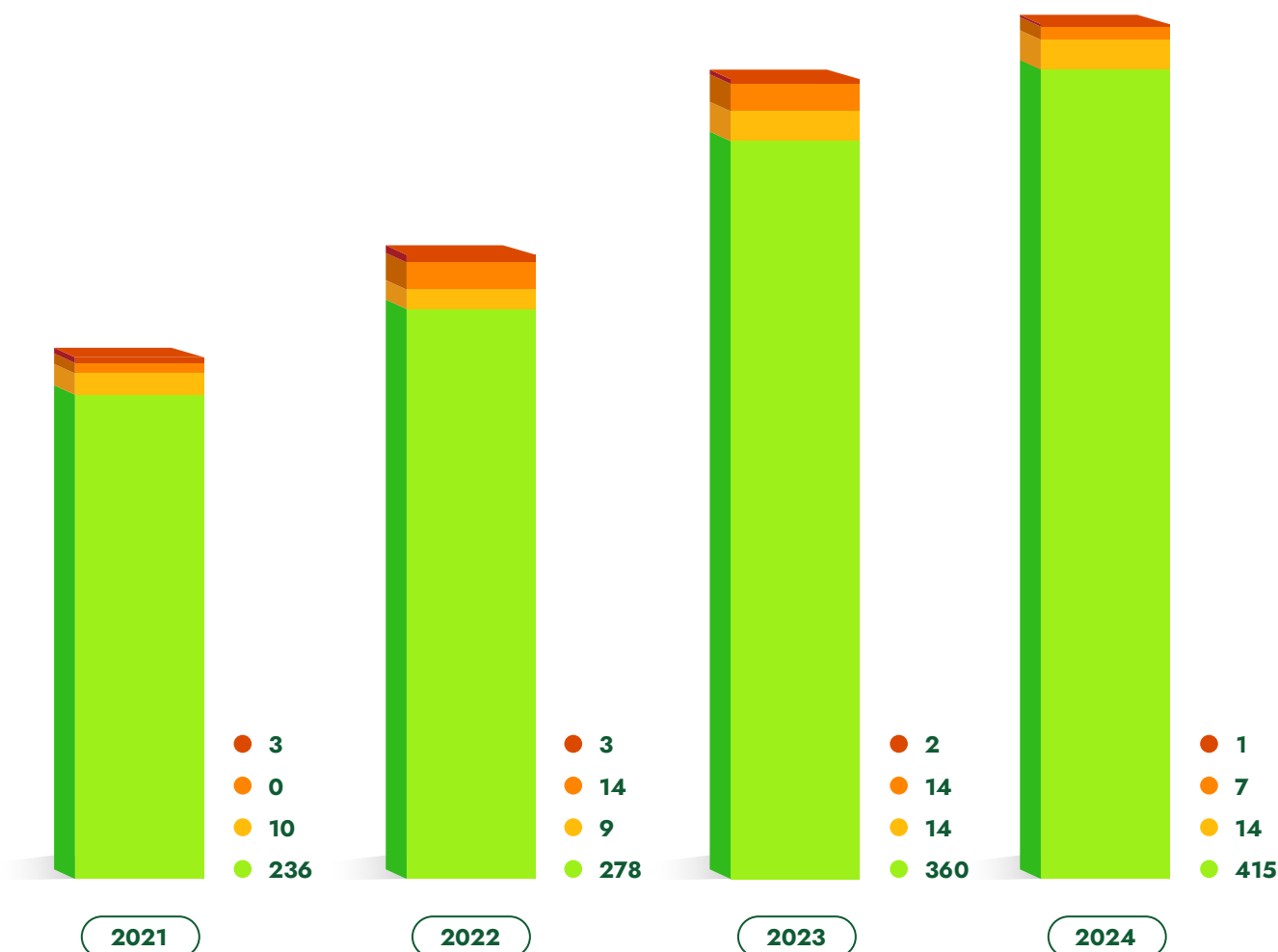
2021
- 3
- 0
- 10
- 236

2022
- 3
- 14
- 9
- 278

2023
- 2
- 14
- 14
- 360

2024
- 1
- 7
- 14
- 415

- Producer deregistered from producer group
- Certification cancelled
- Certification suspended
- Certification maintained

What is the **complaint procedure** for maximum residue limit exceedances?

Dedicated experts for maximum residue limit (MRL) investigations

Participation in a residue monitoring system (RMS) or a yearly MRL analysis for each product is a core requirement in the principles and criteria of the Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) standard for the plants scope.

GLOBALG.A.P. has a dedicated team of experts for complaints relating to MRLs. If non-conformances are detected, the producer is given up to 28 days to take corrective actions (depending on the severity of the non-conformance and the food safety risk).

Where the relevant certification body (CB) does not provide the required clarification following an investigation, additional investigations are carried out by GLOBALG.A.P. An additional product sample may be taken at origin where necessary.

How are maximum residue limit **complaints processed?**

Complaint issued to GLOBALG.A.P.

↓

Complaint information is verified (producer status, analysis report, traceability information, etc.), recorded in the complaint management system, and sent to the relevant CB.

↓

CB investigates the complaint and sends their conclusions to the GLOBALG.A.P. technical team.

- **Phase one:** CB performs a document check and sends GLOBALG.A.P. information on the last producer audit/inspection.
- **Phase two:** In most cases, an unannounced audit/inspection is conducted at the producer's premises and the situation is investigated on site.

↓

If clarification is required, additional investigations are undertaken by GLOBALG.A.P.

- **Independent food experts** may be commissioned to take a sample at origin, and the sample is then tested by an accredited laboratory.
- **In cases relating to** GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody, several agents in the supply chain may be contacted for information.

↓

The CB Integrity team sends a report to the complainant. If a potential risk is identified, information can be used to initiate further integrity assessments.

Complaint closed

Good to know:

MRL testing is a screening method conducted in a laboratory to analyze residues from the application of plant protection products in crop farming.

How many maximum residue limit complaints **were received in 2024?**

Number of MRL **complaints processed**
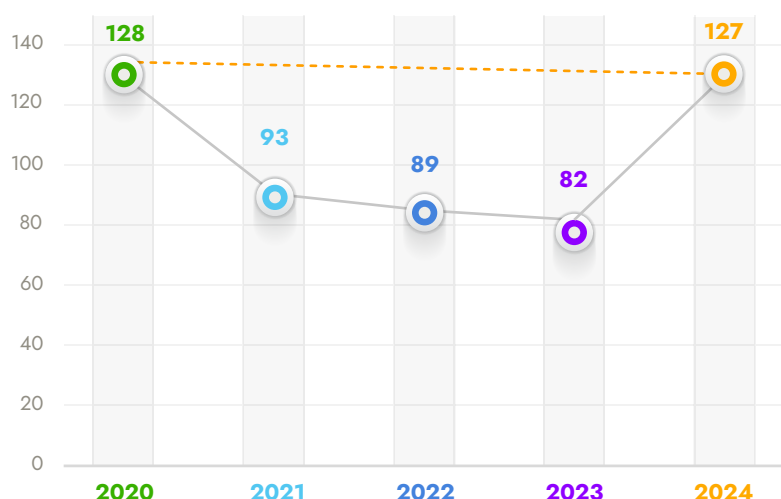
A total of 127 MRL complaints was received during 2024, a 54.8% increase in comparison with 2023. This is also the highest annual number since 2020.

The MRL complaints received during 2024 involved 116 producers and 41 supply chain companies. Following the investigations, 19 producers had their certification suspended, two producer group members were deregistered, and four producers had their certification cancelled.

Number of countries with producers under GLOBALG.A.P. certification and **number of countries with MRL complaint investigations**
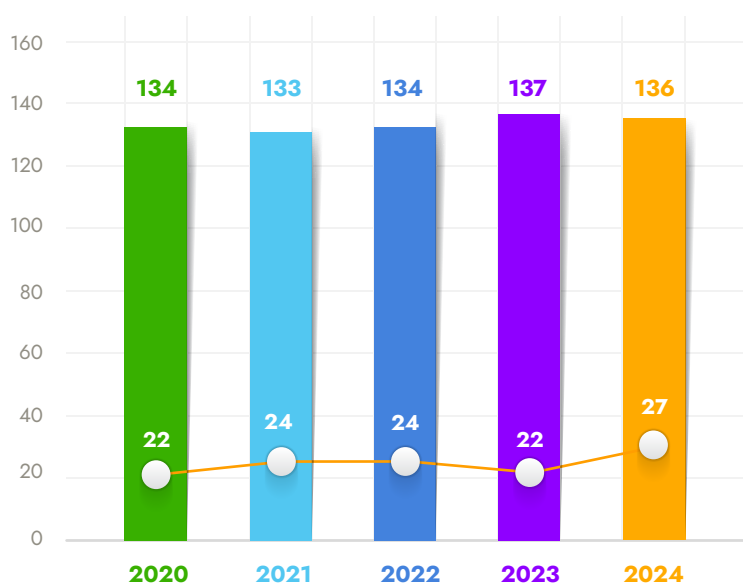
There were MRL investigations **involving 27 different countries during 2024**. The leading countries were Italy (24 cases), Spain (16), Germany (11), Peru (10), and Turkey (7). The top-ranking countries are very similar to those in 2023, although decreases can be observed in Morocco and Egypt.

Spain is the country with the highest number of producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes worldwide (48,577 as of 31 December 2024), followed by Italy, Greece, India, and France. Germany, Peru, and Turkey all feature in the top 15.

Number of **crops investigated** in MRL complaints

2020 27
2021 25
2022 24
2023 18
2024 19
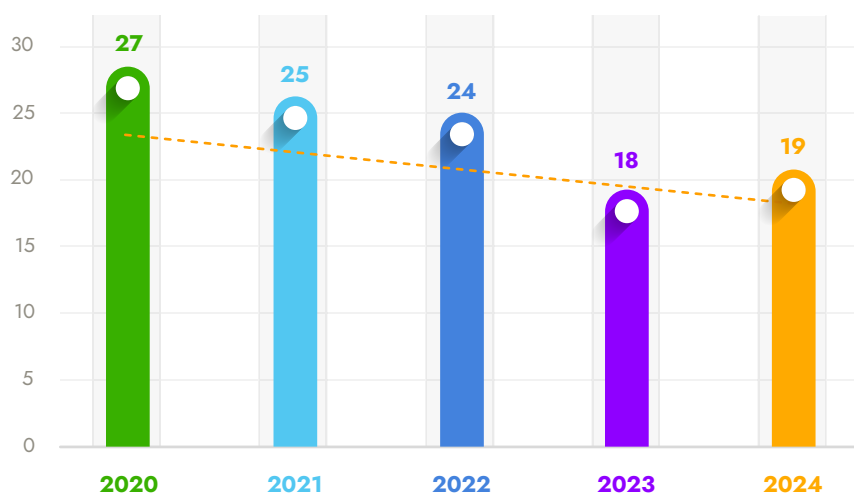
In 2024, the most frequent sources of complaint were **exotics (26 cases), berries (15), salads (14), stone fruit (13), leaf crops (12) and citrus (7)**. Leaf crops have dropped out of the top three for the first time in four years.

In comparison with 2023, exotics, salads, and stone fruits have significantly increased the number of cases from 9 to 26, from 1 to 14, and from 3 to 13 cases respectively. Berries have also seen an increase in the number of cases from 10 to 15. Citrus (7 cases) has slightly reduced the number of cases in 2024, compared with 2023 (10 cases).

Number of MRL complaints investigated **per crop per country**

Exotics (Peru) 6
Stone fruits (Turkey) 6
Exotics (Spain) 5
Exotics (Colombia) 5
Leaf crops (Italy) 5
Stone fruits (Italy) 5
Leaf crops (Germany) 4
Berries (Spain) 4
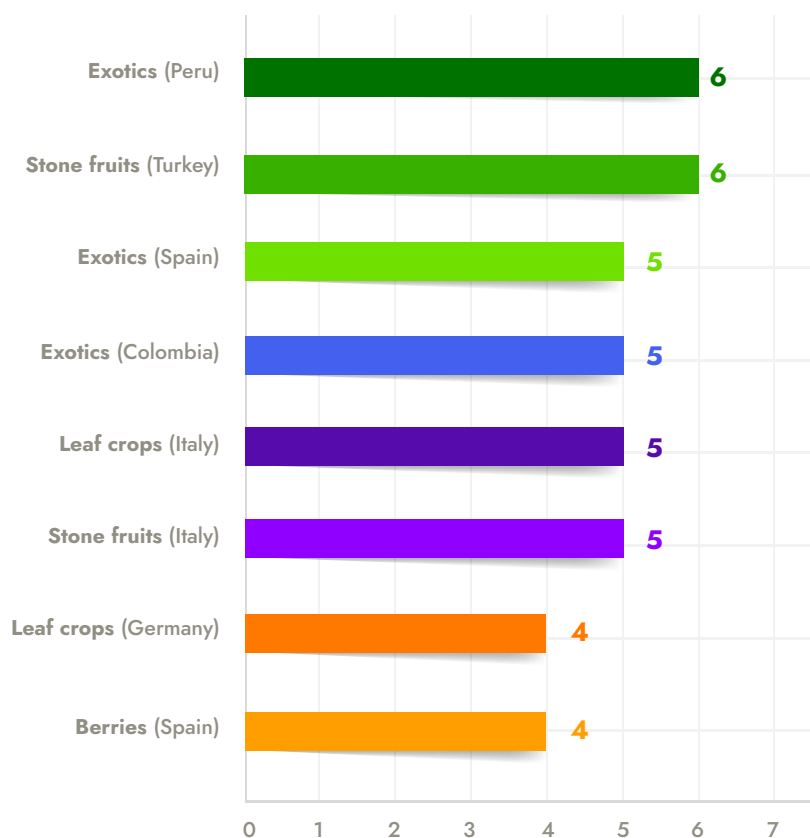
The most MRL investigations in 2024 involved exotics from Peru (6 cases), stone fruits from Turkey (6 cases), and exotics from Spain and Colombia (5 cases each).

In 2023, the highest number of complaints was received for leaf crops from Italy (6 cases), tubers from Egypt (5 cases), and citrus from Spain (5 cases

How are maximum residue limit complaints **categorized?**
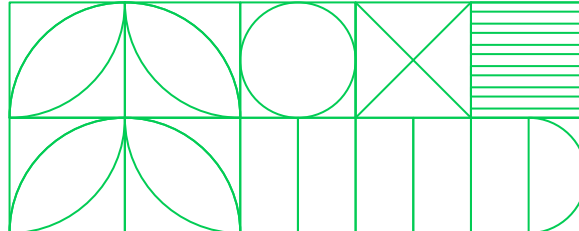
The results of MRL complaints processed by the CB Integrity team are broken down into **14 categories** that identify a root cause. This classification works as a feedback mechanism that aids both the implementation and the audit of GLOBALG.A.P. solutions in the future.

Cross-/Drift contamination

The exceedance is due to drift from an adjacent field which, in most cases, is not covered by GLOBALG.A.P. certification.

GGN misuse by a certificate holder

Misuse includes labeling with incorrect GGNs, producers labeling products from noncertified production processes with a GGN, and other non-authorized uses of the GGN.

Incidence in parallel ownership (PO) and/or parallel production (PP)

These are cases where the producer is registered for PP/PO and related problems were identified as the source of the incident. A common example is an ineffective segregation system resulting in the mixing of products from certified and noncertified production processes.

Incident in the supply chain

Included here are issues such as GGN misuse by a packer or supply chain member without GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC) certification.

Lack of traceability

No reliable traceability information could be obtained to match the analyzed product to a specific batch from the producer.

Metabolite from a different application

This category covers instances where the exceedance is produced by a chemical process from application of an unrelated substance. One example might be phosphonic acid residues resulting from another application.

No reason found

The CB investigation could not identify the cause of the reported exceedance, or a plausible reason was found but could not be demonstrated as being the origin of the exceedance. In these cases, the producer is requested to take appropriate measures to rectify the detected weak points. Some cases in which no reason is found may be forwarded to the CB Integrity team following review by the MRL technical experts.

Noncertified product

The affected product was not sold as originating from GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes and is therefore not a matter for a GLOBALG.A.P. investigation. Even if the producer is under certification for another product type, the product in question must be clearly indicated on the invoice/trading document as originating from a GLOBALG.A.P. certified production process in order to qualify for investigation.

Not investigated

This category covers cases relating to producers no longer under GLOBALG.A.P. certification, or cases with a lack of evidence proving that the product originated from a producer with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes.

Other

This category covers a range of scenarios, for example, issues with plant protection product application machinery or producer certification.

Pesticide misuse

The most common issue included in this category is the use of pesticides with very low MRLs in the EU and not increasing, not sufficiently increasing, or failing to comply with the preharvest interval (PHI) as indicated on the label. Misuse also covers the application of non-authorized active ingredients and other similar causes.

QS-GAP investigation

The producer is QS-GAP certified, and QS conducts the investigation by taking a second sample. If the result is acceptable, the investigation is closed.

Unexpected behavior of the active ingredients

This category covers exceedances attributable to the low degradation rate of plant protection products or issues resulting from weather conditions.

Lab error

Confirmed by a counter-sample sent to the same laboratory.

How were maximum residue limit complaints **categorized in 2024?**

4.6%
Incidence in PO/PP; **5**

1.8%
Product from noncertified production process; **2**

11.9%
Unexpected behavior of the active ingredients; **13**

3.7%
Not investigated; **4**

1.8%
Lab error; **2**

5.5%
Other; **6**

0.9%
GGN misuse by a certificate holder; **1**

5.5%
Lack of traceability; **6**

24.8%
Cross-/Drift contamination; **27**

5.5%
QS-GAP investigation; **6**

7.3%
Pesticide misuse; **8**

2.8%
Metabolite from a different application; **3**

8.3%
Incident at the supply chain; **9**

15.6%
No reason found; **17**

In the top three categories for 2024, the leading causes of MRL complaints were cross-/drift contamination (27 cases, a decrease of one compared to 2023), no reason found (17 cases, a 41.6% increase), and unexpected behavior of the active ingredients (13 cases, an increase of 333%).

MRL investigation results
2020–2024

Legend:
- GGN misuse
- Lab error
- Not investigated
- Product from noncertified production processes
- Incidence in PO/PP
- Unexpected behavior of the active ingredients
- Other
- Lack of traceability
- QS-GAP investigation
- Pesticide misuse
- Metabolite from a different application
- Incident in the supply chain
- No reason found
- Cross-/Drift contamination

2020 2021 2022 2023 2024

Where were maximum residue limit complaints investigated?

In 2024, MRL complaints were investigated in 26 countries across the globe. There were two cases where the country of origin could not be defined. The most investigations took place in the two countries with the highest number of producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes worldwide: Spain and Italy.
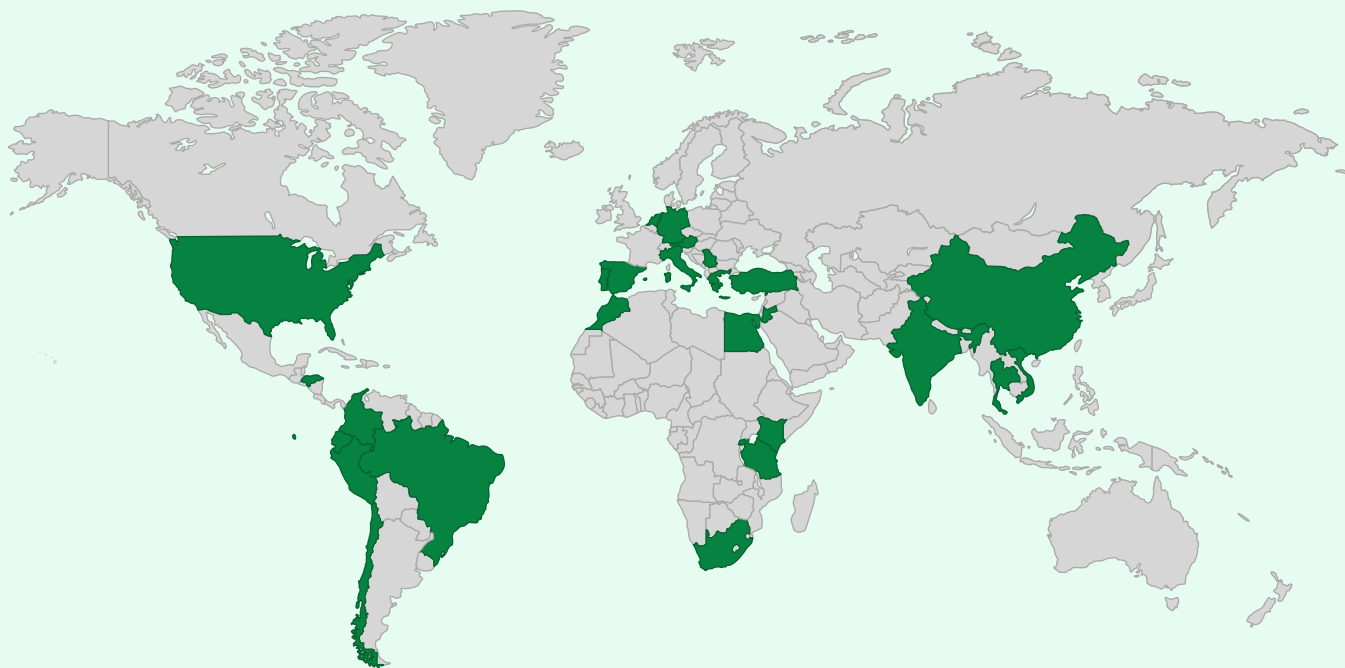
Austria	1	Ecuador	2	Italy	24	Peru	10	Spain	16
Brazil	2	Egypt	6	Jordan	1	Portugal	2	Tanzania	1
Chile	2	Germany	11	Kenya	5	Rwanda	1	Thailand	1
China	5	Greece	3	Morocco	5	Serbia	1	Turkey	7
Colombia	3	India	3	Netherlands	2	South Africa	6	United States	1
								Vietnam	2

Most MRL complaints **investigated in 2024**

1. Italy
2. Spain
3. Germany
4. Peru
5. Turkey
6. Egypt
7. South Africa
8. China
9. Morocco
10. Kenya

2024

Italy **24**

Spain **16**

Germany **11**

Peru **10**

Turkey **7**

2023

Spain **17**

Italy **11**

Egypt **9**

Morocco **6**

Turkey **5**

Which crops were investigated in maximum residue limit complaints?
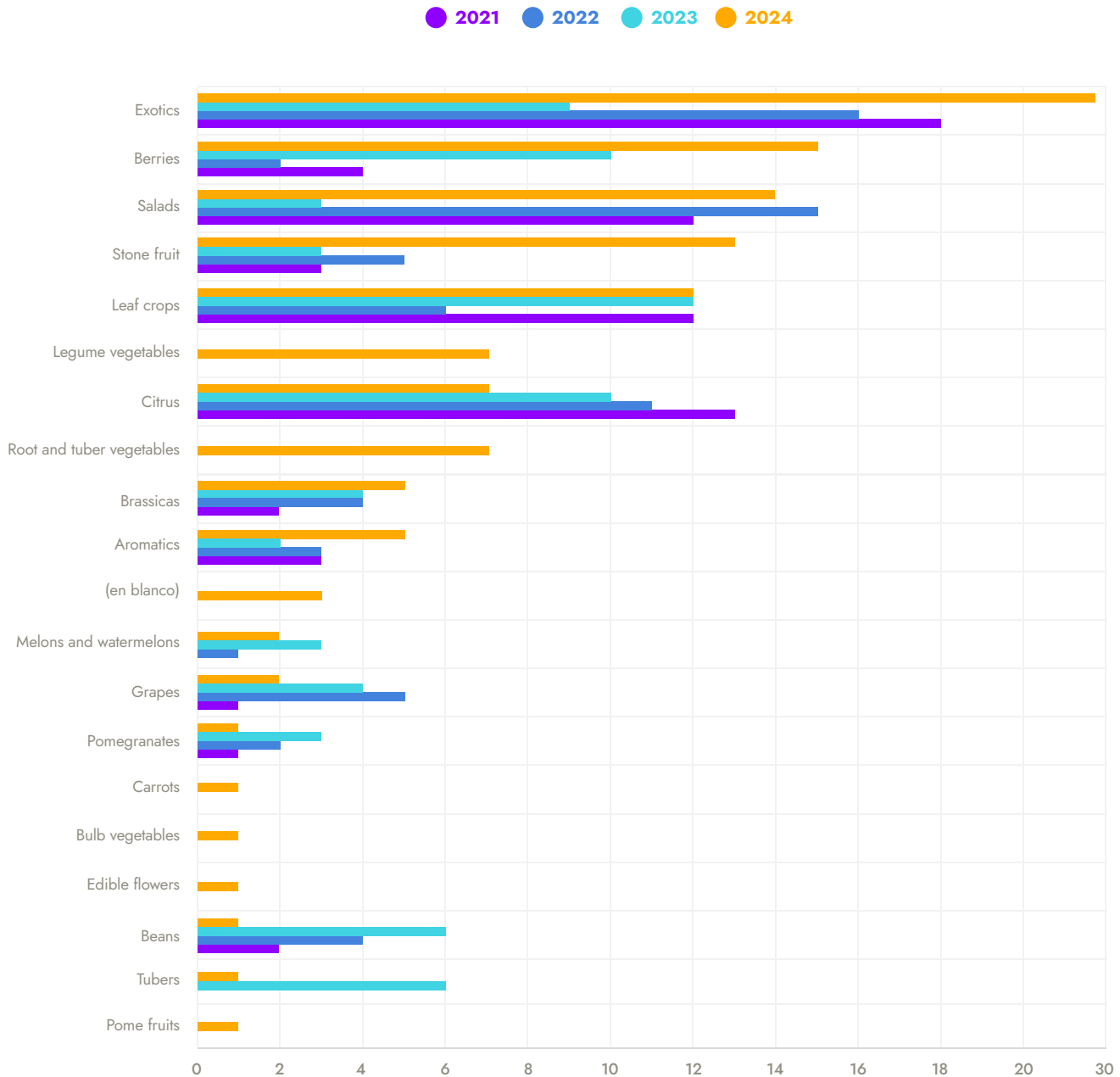
What were the maximum residue limit complaint **investigation outcomes?**

MRL complaints received during 2024 involved 116 different producers. Following the investigations, 19 producers had their certification suspended, four producers had their certification cancelled, and two were deregistered from their producer group. 91 producers maintained their certification.

2021
- 0
- 5
- 13
- 80

2022
- 0
- 0
- 20
- 69

2023
- 0
- 2
- 5
- 75

2024
- 2
- 4
- 19
- 91

- ● Producer deregistered from producer group
- ● Certification cancelled
- ● Certification suspended
- ● Certification maintained
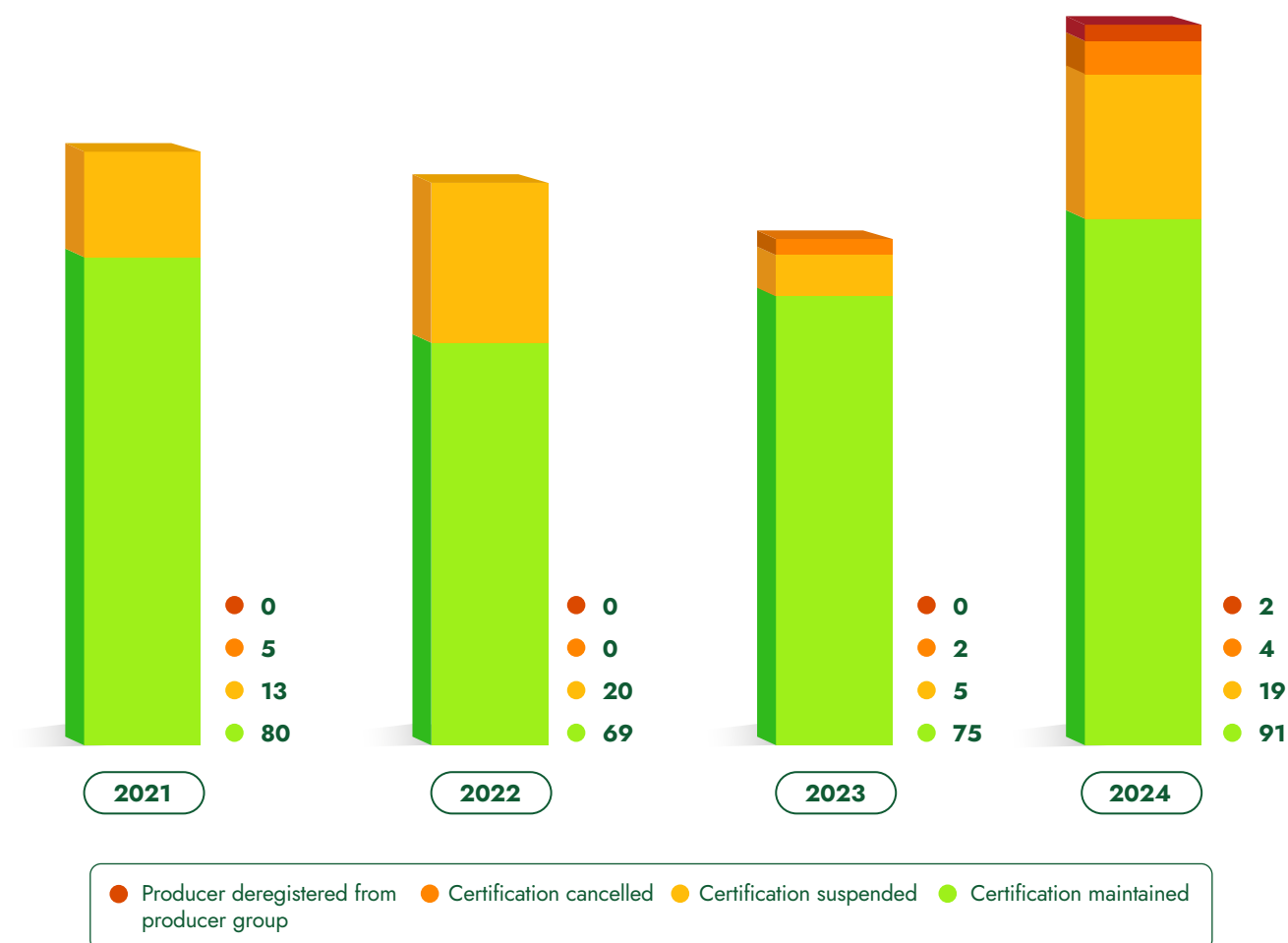
Top products by hectares of certified production in 2024

Non-covered production		Covered production	
1. Potato	11. Pineapple	1. Tomato	11. Melon
2. Banana	12. Blueberry	2. Strawberry	12. Aubergine/Eggplant
3. Apple	13. Pear	3. Capsicum (pepper/chilli)	13. Blackberry
4. Orange	14. Mango	4. Blueberry	14. Green bean
5. Avocado	15. Lettuce	5. Cucumber	15. Banana
6. Grape (table)	16. Tomato	6. Raspberry	16. Grape (table)
7. Mandarin	17. Broccoli	7. Courgette (zucchini, marrow)	17. Baby leaf lettuce
8. Onion	18. Kiwi	8. Watermelon	18. Baby leaf spinach
9. Cherry	19. Carrot	9. Lettuce	19. Radish
10. Lemon	20. Melon	10. Corn salad/Lamb's lettuce	20. Arugula/Rocket (herb)

What is the status of **open complaint investigations?**
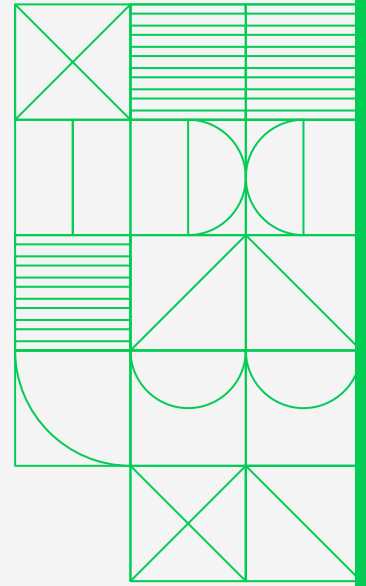
At the end of 2024, there were **18 open investigations** to be resolved in 2025.

While an investigation typically lasts for two months, it can take much longer. In 2024, the main contributing factors for extending the duration of an investigation included:

→ **Chain of custody issues** where the information provided by the complainant does not relate to the producer. In most cases, the product has been packed by another legal entity or repacked at its destination. The supply chain must then be investigated to find the source of the problem.

→ **The CB has no auditors in the country** where the producer is located, and therefore travel arrangements are needed.

→ **The CB's auditors face scheduling** or logistical issues which mean an unannounced audit takes several weeks to organize.

→ **The CB detects non-compliances** during the unannounced audit and — in accordance with the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations — the producer has 28 days to submit corrective actions. The CB has another 28 days to make a certification decision.

→ **GLOBALG.A.P. challenges** the investigation outcome and the CB needs to reorient the investigation and continue with a new investigation.

The role of the Customer Support team

The GLOBALG.A.P. Customer Support team is the primary point of contact for reliable information on all our solutions. **As part of the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program,** the team assists stakeholders around the world with support and guidance on the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems, such as the Database, Audit Online Hub, and Validation Service.

The team also provides information on the certification process, monitors the information that certification bodies (CBs) upload to the GLOBALG.A.P. IT systems, and connects stakeholders with specific technical questions to the appropriate GLOBALG.A.P. team.

Facts and figures
2024

9,075
Resolved requests

1,208
Retailers/supply chain companies supported

290
Producers supported

144
Hours of training

10
Team members

13
Languages offered

Afrikaans, Arabic, Czech, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian

The GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program in **2025 and beyond**

Safeguarding the **GLOBALG.A.P. certification system**

The GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program takes a multifaceted approach, combining various activities aimed at **instilling confidence in the certification system** and trust in the integrity of GLOBALG.A.P. solutions. From providing clarity on system operations through certification body (CB) training to approving new CBs, monitoring their overall performance, and investigating complaints, we work tirelessly to safeguard the GLOBALG.A.P. brand.

Our integrity assessments are one of the most important aspects of the program: By assessing the certification processes of a selection of certification bodies each year, we gain an objective overview of whether the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system is functioning as intended.

In 2024, we continued integrity assessments on an unprecedented scale, conducting almost **480 assessment days across more than 40 countries**. Once again, we focused largely on regions with the highest number of producers with GLOBALG.A.P. certified production processes, including Spain and Italy, but we also targeted other countries such as the USA, Germany, Greece, Poland, and Ecuador, **assessing a total of 122 out of 193 approved CBs worldwide**.

63% of GLOBALG.A.P. approved CBs assessed in 2024

The results are encouraging: 56% of producer performance was deemed good or excellent, with only 4% requiring significant improvement. While 33% of assessed CBs fell into class 3 (requiring some improvement), **65% demonstrated good or excellent performance**. Overall, we maintain a high level of confidence in the integrity of our CBs and producers.

We received 609 complaints in 2024, with **investigations involving 437 producers in 66 countries**. This marks a notable rise from 2023 and represents the highest total in the previous five years. Over 40% of these complaints were related to **misuse of the GLOBALG.A.P. brand, logo, and/or identification numbers**. Brand integrity therefore remains a key focus area moving into 2025.

Adapting to an **ever-evolving landscape**

In summary, the GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program remains steadfast in its commitment to upholding the highest standards of integrity and **adapting to evolving industry demands.**

By proactively engaging with the implementation process, leveraging our expertise, and capitalizing on future-proof tools to assist our work — such as the new GLOBALG.A.P. IT platform — we are poised to adapt and excel in providing smart farm assurance solutions in the **developing landscape of responsible farming practices**.

Thank you for your continued support.

Annex

GLOBALG.A.P. approved
certification bodies

Pending/no KPI: Some of the most recently approved CBs may not have a KPI rating due to there not yet being enough evidence available within the evaluation criteria to establish an overall KPI rating. This does not mean poor performance.

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)
Bureau Veritas Argentina S.A.	Argentina	4.1
IRAM-Instituto Argentino de Normalizacion y Certificacion	Argentina	3.7
LETIS S.A.	Argentina	3.9
Organizacion Internacional Agropecuaria S.A. (OIA)	Argentina	3.9
SGS Argentina S.A.	Argentina	3.7
AUS-QUAL Pty Ltd	Australia	4.3
agroVet GmbH	Austria	4.2
Lacon - Privatinstitut für Qualitätssicher. und Zert.	Austria	4.0
SGS Austria Controll-Co. Ges.m.b.H.	Austria	4.0
SLK GesmbH	Austria	4.9
Quality Austria Certification GmbH	Austria	Pending
Bodemkundige Dienst van België vzw (Soil Service of Belgium – CERTALENT)	Belgium	4.3
CKCert	Belgium	4.0
TÜV NORD INTEGRA bv	Belgium	4.0
IMOCERT LATINOAMERICA LTDA.	Bolivia	3.3
QIMA Brasil Ltda.	Brazil	3.9
SBC-Serviço Brasileiro de Certificações Ltda	Brazil	3.8
IMAFLORA	Brazil	Pending
Savassi Certificação Serviços Administrativos LTDA	Brazil	Pending
IBD Certificações	Brazil	No KPI available
Seeds Canada dba Centre for Systems Integration	Canada	No KPI available
CPS - Certification of Product and Systems	Chile	3.9
Primus Auditing Ops	Chile	4.1
Ansense Food Safety Technology Co., Ltd.	China	Pending
China Quality Certification Centre Co., Ltd.	China	3.9
Merieux NutriSciences Certification (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.	China	Pending
Fundación NaturaCertificación - NaturaCert	Colombia	3.9
ICONTEC	Colombia	3.8
EMERJA S.A.S.	Colombia	No KPI available
Lenor Colombia SAS	Colombia	No KPI available
BUREAU NORME AUDIT (BNA)	Ivory Coast	4.0
Bureau Veritas Côte d'Ivoire	Ivory Coast	3,3
Ceska spolecnost pro jakost, z.s. (Czech Society for Quality)	Czech Republic	4.1
Baltic Control Certification A/S	Denmark	4.0
Bureau Veritas Certification Denmark A/S	Denmark	3.7
Bureau Veritas Ecuador S.A.	Ecuador	4.3
HEIACert	Egypt	3.8
Certiva for Quality Certificates	Egypt	No KPI available
ICERT for Development of Agriculture	Egypt	No KPI available

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)
Infinity Cert International	Egypt	No KPI available
Preferred by Nature OÜ	Estonia	Pending
BUREAU VERITAS CERTIFICATION France	France	3,9
CERTIPAQ	France	4,1
CERTIS (France)	France	4,1
Ecocert Environnement SAS	France	4,0
QUALISUD	France	4,2
ABCG Agrar-Beratungs- und Controll GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
ADIA-Zert GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
AGRIZERT Zertifizierungs GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
auditpartner GmbH	Germany	No KPI
ABCERT AG	Germany	available
ACG Agrar-Control GmbH	Germany	4,2
ARS PROBATA GmbH	Germany	4,3
CERES - CERtification of Environmental Standards GmbH	Germany	3,7
LKSmbH — Landwirtschaftliche Kommunikations- und Servicegesellschaft mbH	Germany	3,9
QAL GmbH	Germany	3,8
SGS Germany GmbH	Germany	4,4
Control Union Certifications Germany GmbH	Germany	3,4
LC Landwirtschafts-Consulting GmbH	Germany	Pending
CERTplus GmbH	Germany	Pending
LACON GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
Tentacontrol GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
TÜV SÜD Management Service GmbH	Germany	No KPI available
BIOHELLAS S.A.	Greece	4,0
EUROCERT European Inspection and Certification	Greece	3,8
Oxygono-Hellenic Certification Body	Greece	3,7
Q-check P.C.	Greece	3,4
QMSCERT Audits Inspections Certifications S.A. (Q-CERT S.A.)	Greece	4,4
TÜV AUSTRIA HELLAS	Greece	4,2
TUV HELLAS (TUV Nord) S.A.	Greece	4,3
SGS India Pvt. Ltd.	India	3,6
TUV India Pvt Ltd	India	Pending
TQ Cert Services Private Limited	India	No KPI available
An Bord Bia	Ireland	4,1
Institute of Quality & Control (IQC)	Israel	4,2
Bioagricert srl	Italy	3,8
BUREAU VERITAS ITALIA SPA	Italy	4,1
CCPB SRL	Italy	4,2
Certiquality S.r.l.	Italy	3,5
CODEX SRL	Italy	4,7
CSI S.p.A.	Italy	4,4
CSQA Certificazioni Srl	Italy	3,9
DNV Business Assurance Italy Srl	Italy	3,7
ICEA Instituto Certificazione Etica Ambientale	Italy	4,2
RINA AGRIFOOD S.p.A.	Italy	3,9

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)
RINA Services S.p.A.	Italy	3.9
SGS ICS Italia S.r.l.	Italy	3.5
Suolo e Salute srl	Italy	3.9
Japan Organic & Natural Foods Association	Japan	4.0
Japan Quality Assurance Organization	Japan	4.3
Jordan Standards and Metrology Organization (JSMO-CT)	Jordan	3.5
AFRICERT LTD	Kenya	3.5
React Cert Africa Limited	Kenya	3.6
The Kenya Flower Council (KFC)	Kenya	4,6
FITI Testing & Research Institute	Korea, Republic of	4.2
TÜV SÜD Korea Ltd. trading as TÜV SÜD Asia Pacific, TÜV SÜD Group	Korea, Republic of	3.9
FOOD SAFETY CTS SERVICIOS DE AUDITORIA S.C.	Mexico	No KPI available
Green Certificaciones e Inspecciones S.C.	Mexico	No KPI available
Asociación Mexicana de Evaluadores de la Normatividad A.C.	Mexico	Pending
Certificadora de Productos Sustentables S.C. (CPS)	Mexico	Pending
ASOCIACIÓN DE NORMALIZACIÓN Y CERTIFICACIÓN S.A. DE C.V.	Mexico	3.6
CEMA INTERNATIONAL COMPLIANCE SERVICES, SA DE CV.	Mexico	4.0
Global Standards S.C.	Mexico	3.8
NORMICH, A.C.	Mexico	3.9
Primus Auditing Operations México S. de R.L. de C.V.	Mexico	4,1
Servicios Integrales para una Agricultura Rentable A.C. (SIAR)	Mexico	3.6
Sociedad Mexicana de Normalización y Certificación S.C.	Mexico	2.9
Verificación y Certificación PAMFA A.C.	Mexico	4.3
Sygma Certification (Morocco) sarl	Morocco	Pending
Control Union Certifications B.V.	Netherlands	3.7
Kiwa VERIN B.V.	Netherlands	3.8
MPS-ECAS B.V.	Netherlands	4.0
SGS Netherlands B.V.	Netherlands	3.3
Producert BV	Netherlands	No KPI available
AsureQuality Limited	New Zealand	4.2
Kiwa AS	Norway	4.3
Synfaring AS	Norway	Pending
CONTROL UNION SERVICES S.A.C.	Peru	4.5
Marine Consultants S.A.C. - MARCONSULT S.A.C.	Peru	3.5
BIOCERT MALOPOLSKA SPÓLKA Z O.O.	Poland	4.1
Bureau Veritas Polska Sp. z o.o.	Poland	3.9
DQS Polska sp. zo.o	Poland	3.3
PNG Sp. z o.o	Poland	3.8
SGS Polska Sp. z o.o.	Poland	4.1
TUV Rheinland Polska Sp. z o.o.	Poland	4.6
AGRICERT- CERTIFICAÇÃO DE PRODUTOS ALIMENTARES LDA	Portugal	4.0
Certis - Controlo e Certificação, Lda. (Portugal)	Portugal	3.8
CODIMACO - Certificação e Qualidade, Lda	Portugal	4.0
Kiwa Sativa - Unipessoal, Lda.	Portugal	4.0
Naturalfa - Controlo e Certificação,Lda.	Portugal	4.0
Aspirata Auditing, Testing & Certification Pty Ltd	South Africa	Pending

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)
African Certification and Testing (Pty) Ltd	South Africa	4.1
SGS South Africa (Pty) Ltd.	South Africa	3.7
Partner Africa	South Africa	No KPI available
AGROCONTROL IBERICA, S.L.	Spain	No KPI available
ARAPORC ENTIDAD DE INSPECCION, SL	Spain	No KPI available
4PLUS INGENIEROS Y ARQUITECTOS S.L	Spain	4.3
AB-AUCATEL ORGANISMO DE CERTIFICACIÓN, S.L.U	Spain	3.9
ACERTA Certificación, S.L.	Spain	4.3
Agencia para la Certificación de la Calidad y el Medio Ambiente (ACCM)	Spain	3.7
AGROCOLOR S.L.	Spain	3.5
APPLUS (LGAI Technological Center S.A.)	Spain	4.2
Bureau Veritas Iberia, S.L.	Spain	4.0
CAAE (Servicio de Certificacion)	Spain	3.9
CERTIFOOD	Spain	4.2
ECCO Ingenieros S.L.	Spain	4.6
ITACA-Ingeniería Técnica Agrícola Certificadora Agroalimentaria, S.L.	Spain	4.3
KIWA ESPAÑA, S.L.U	Spain	4.0
Norma Agricola S.L.	Spain	4.1
SAI Global Certification Services Pty Ltd.	Spain	4.5
SGS ICS Ibérica S.A.	Spain	4.1
SOHISCERT S.A.	Spain	3.8
SYGMA CERTIFICATION, S.L.	Spain	4.1
SAI Global Assurance Services	Spain	No KPI available
SMAK Certifiering AB	Sweden	No KPI available
ProCert AG	Switzerland	4.5
Universal Certification Service CO.,LTD	Taiwan	3.6
GREENCERT LIMITED	Tanzania	Pending
Control Union Gözetim ve Belgelendirme Ltd. Şti.	Turkey	Pending
ECOSIR KONTROL VE SERTİFİKASYON A.Ş.	Turkey	Pending
AGFO Teknik Kontrol ve Belgelendirme Hizmetleri Ltd. Şti.	Turkey	3.8
CTR Uluslararası Belgelendirme ve Denetim Ltd. Şti.	Turkey	4.0
ECAS SERTIFIKASYON VE ULUSLARARASI DENETIM LTD STI	Turkey	4.0
EKOINSPEKT Uluslar arasi Belgelendirme Denetim Gozetim Teknik Kontrol ve Egitim Hizmetleri Ltd. Sti.	Turkey	4.1
ETKO EKOLOJIK TARIM KONTROL ORGANIZASYON LTD. STI.	Turkey	4.3
Naviga Ul.Belgelendirme ve Egitim Hizm.Ltd.Sti.	Turkey	3.9
TCERT ULUSLARARASI SERTİFİKASYON VE TEKNİK DENETİM HİZM. TİC. LTD. ŞTİ.	Turkey	4.6
Eurofins Food Safety Solutions	United Kingdom	No KPI available
Agri-Canaan LTD	United Kingdom	Pending
BSI Assurance UK Limited.	United Kingdom	3.7
LRQA (Seafood) Limited	United Kingdom	4.0
NSF Certification UK Ltd.	United Kingdom	4.0
UK Food Certification Ltd	United Kingdom	No KPI available
1st Solution Certification USA, Inc.	USA	No KPI available
CCOF Certification Services, LLC.	USA	3.8
Ceres Certifications, International (USA)	USA	3.6

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)
EAGLE Food Registrations Inc.	USA	3.1
International Compliance Group Inc	USA	4.3
Intertek Testing Services NA, Inc.	USA	3.5
Mérieux NutriSciences Certification LLC	USA	3.9
NSF Certification LLC	USA	3.7
Perry Johnson Registrars Food Safety, Inc	USA	3.9
Quality Certification Services (QCS)	USA	4.3
Scientific Certification Systems, Inc. d.b.a. SCS Global Services	USA	3.8
WQS, LLC.	USA	3.5
LSQA S.A.	Uruguay	3.7
Global Inspection and Certification Network (CGLOBAL) Joint Stock Company	Vietnam	Pending
Bureau Veritas Certification Vietnam Limited	Vietnam	3.7
Eurofins Assurance Vietnam Limited Liability Company	Vietnam	4.2
IQC Certification and Inspection JSC	Vietnam	4.1
SGS Vietnam Ltd	Vietnam	3.8

CB name	Headquarters location	KPI rating (31/12/2024)

List of **integrity assessment days** by country in 2024

Country	No. of days	Country	No. of days
Argentina	12	Kenya	15
Australia	6.5	Mexico	13
Austria	2	Moldova	4
Belgium	4	Morocco	6
Bolivia	3	Netherlands	11
Brazil	10	New Zealand	5
Chile	14.5	Norway	6
China	8	Peru	13.5
Colombia	14	Philippines	5
Cyprus	2	Poland	18
Czech Republic	2	Portugal	10.5
Denmark	4	Serbia	3
Ecuador	16	South Africa	11
Egypt	15	Spain	50.5
France	13.5	Switzerland	2.5
Germany	26	Tanzania	4
Greece	21	Turkey	21
Guatemala	4	UK	10.5
India	9.5	USA	39.5
Ireland	4	Vietnam	4
Italy	23	**Total**	**479**
Ivory Coast	3		
Japan	9		

Top 15 countries by number of producers under GLOBALG.A.P. core solutions certification in 2024

Country	Certificates	Producers under certification
1. Spain	5,362	48,577
2. Italy	4,662	23,919
3. Greece	1,032	20,401
4. India	173	11,738
5. France	4,999	8,301
6. Germany	7,687	8,015
7. Peru	881	7,333
8. Netherlands	5,429	5,429
9. Chile	4,927	5,046
10. Kenya	431	4,706
11. Poland	2,313	4,191
12. Portugal	2,937	4,160
13. Turkey	622	3,716
14. Colombia	761	2,680
15. Austria	2,578	2,578

List of public certification body
training courses in 2024

Training type	Date of course	Medium	Language	Participants
IHT training Nurture Module v12	10–12/01/2024	Online	English	9
IHT training GRASP v2	15–17/01/2024	Online	English	9
QMS auditor training v6	15–17/01/2024	Online	English	11
IHT training GROW v3.1	17/01/2024	Online	English	16
IHT training CFM v3.1	22–25/01/2024	Online	English	1
QMS auditor training v6	30/01–01/02/2024	Online	French	10
IHT training plants v6	29/01–02/02/2024	Online	English	8
QMS auditor training v6	14–16/02/2024	Online	Spanish	12
QMS auditor training v6	21–23/02/2024	Online	English	14
IHT training plants v6	19–23/02/2024	Online	Spanish	6
IHT training CoC v6.1	26–28/02/2024	Online	English	15
IHT training SPRING v2	26–28/02/2024	Online	Spanish	6
IHT training BioDiversity v1.1	06/03/2024	Online	English	6
IHT training GRASP v2	12–14/03/2024	Online	English	5
QMS auditor training v6	18–20/03/2024	Online	English	12
IHT training GROW v3.1	19/03/2024	Online	English	12
IHT training Nurture Module v12	17–19/04/2024	Online	English	5
QMS auditor training v6	24–26/04/2024	Online	English	10
Scheme manager update training	21/05/2024	Online	English	13
QMS auditor training v6	22–24/05/2024	Online	Spanish	6
IHT training CoC v6.1	27–29/05/2024	Online	English	9
QMS auditor training v6	27–29/05/2024	Online	Italian	6
Scheme manager update training	29/05/2024	Online	English	12
IHT training plants v6	03–07/06/2024	Online	English	8
IHT training GRASP v2	11–13/06/2024	Online	English	6
Scheme manager update training	14/06/2024	Online	English	9
IHT training SPRING v2	17–19/06/2024	Online	English	12
QMS auditor training v6	25–27/06/2024	Online	English	13
Scheme manager update training	27/06/2024	Online	English	8
Scheme manager update training	08/07/2024	Online	Spanish	18
IHT training Nurture Module v12	10–12/07/2024	Online	English	6
IHT training GROW v3.1	16/07/2024	Online	Spanish	8
IHT training BioDiversity v1.1	17/07/2024	Online	English	1
Scheme manager update training	22/07/2024	Online	Spanish	12
QMS auditor training v6	30/07–01/08/2024	Online	Spanish	15
Scheme manager update training	06/08/2024	Online	English	6
Scheme manager update training	04/09/2024	Online	Italian	14
IHT training GRASP v2	18–20/09/2024	Online	English	8
IHT training plants v6	23–27/09/2024	Online	English	9

Training type	Date of course	Medium	Language	Participants
IHT training CoC v6.1	25–27/09/2024	Online	English	13
SPRING event with WWF	01/10/2024	In person	Spanish	34
Scheme manager update training	07/10/2024	Online	English	14
IHT training SPRING v2	21–23/10/2024	Online	English	13
Scheme manager update training	28/10/2024	In person	Spanish	11
QMS auditor training v6	29–31/10/2024	Online	Spanish	13
Scheme manager update training	04/11/2024	Online	English	12
QMS auditor training v6	04–06/11/2024	Online	English	14
IHT training GROW v3.1	12/11/2024	Online	English	5
QMS auditor training v6	13–15/11/2024	Online	English	9
IHT training plants v6	18–22/11/2024	Online	Spanish	12
Scheme manager update training	25/11/2024	Online	English	19
IHT training GRASP v2	27–29/11/2024	Online	Spanish	5
IHT training aquaculture v6	02–06/12/2024	Online	English	5
IHT training plants v6	09–13/12/2024	Online	English	5
Scheme manager update training	16/12/2024	Online	English	22

Number of auditors who took **online tests in 2024**

Standard/Add-on		Languages available	Number of auditors assigned to online tests
IIFA v6 Plants		English	905
IFA v6 Plants		Spanish	810
IFA v6 Plants		German	83
IFA v6 Plants		Italian	198
IFA v6 Plants		Dutch	106
IFA v6 Plants		French	156
IFA v6 Plants		Portuguese	28
IFA v6 Plants		Greek	16
IFA v6 Plants		Portuguese (Br)	51
IFA v6 Plants		Polish	63
IFA v6 Plants		Chinese	42
IFA v6 Aquaculture		English	98
IFA v6 Aquaculture		Spanish	28
GRASP v2		English	815
GRASP v2		Spanish	651
GRASP v2		Norwegian	4
GRASP v2		Italian	177
GRASP v2		German	74
GRASP v2	New in 2024	Dutch	57
GRASP v2	New in 2024	Portuguese	36
GRASP v2	New in 2024	French	107
GRASP v2	New in 2024	Greek	0
GRASP v2	New in 2024	Turkish	6
GRASP v2	New in 2024	Portuguese (Br)	16
BioDiversity v1.1		English	39
BioDiversity v1.1	New in 2024	Spanish	36
FSMA PSR add-on v2		English	76
FSMA PSR add-on v2		Spanish	309
IDA add-on v1.1 - Aquaculture		English	1
IDA add-on v1.1 - Plants		English	23
IDA add-on v1.1 - Plants		German	6
IDA add-on v1.1 - Plants		Dutch	15
SPRING v2 Full		Spanish	116
SPRING v2 Full		English	83
SPRING v2 Full	New in 2024	Italian	52
SPRING v2 Update		Spanish	274
SPRING v2 Update		English	137
SPRING v2 Update	New in 2024	Italian	41
CoC v6.1	New in 2024	French	25
TR4 Biosecurity Add-on v2	New in 2024	English	4

Standard/Add-on	Languages available	Number of auditors assigned to online tests
Other party private solutions		
AH-Beter Voor Add-On	Dutch	13
AH-Beter Voor Add-On	English	1
GROW v3.1	Spanish	84
GROW v3.1	Dutch	50
GROW v3.1	English	101
GROW v3.1 `New in 2024`	French	31
GROW v3.1 Update	Dutch	31
GROW v3.1 Update	Spanish	157
GROW v3.1 Update	English	96
GROW v3.1 Update `New in 2024`	French	16
Nurture Module v12	English	137
Nurture Module v12	Spanish	149
Total		**6,630**

GLOBALG.A.P. Integrity Program **glossary**

Term	Definition
Accreditation body	Organization responsible for assessing and accrediting GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification bodies against EN 45011 or ISO/IEC Guide 65. The accreditation body must be a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) or the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA) and a signatory to both the Multi-Lateral Agreement (MLA) for product certification and the Memorandum of Understanding between the EA and/or IAF and GLOBALG.A.P.
Audit	A process carried out by an auditor to obtain evidence (e.g., records, documents, visual observations, interviews) of whether criteria determined in the applicable normative documents have been met
Auditor	A person who conducts an audit against a standard or add-on
Certification body	An organization which conducts audits and awards certificates upon completion of a successful audit
Checklist	A tool used by auditors to audit producers against a standard. A checklist contains a set of principles and criteria which are assigned a level to determine how important the requirement is (Major Must, Minor Must, or Recommendation).
CoC	The GLOBALG.A.P. Chain of Custody (CoC) standard aims to ensure that any product sold with a GLOBALG.A.P. claim or bearing a GGN label logo is truly sourced from a GLOBALG.A.P. certified production process.
Farm audit	An audit of whether a farm's production process fulfills the criteria determined in a given standard. In IFA v5, farm audits were previously called inspections. Farm audits can be carried out internally or by a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body.
Farm auditor	A person who conducts a farm audit (previously called "inspector" in IFA v5)
In-house trainer	An in-house representative at a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body who has passed the training and test for the relevant scope and version and is responsible for ensuring all the registered auditors of a certification body comply with the requirements for conducting certification body audits against GLOBALG.A.P. standards
Integrity assessment	Periodic assessments to determine whether certification bodies are conducting their certification processes in line with GLOBALG.A.P. normative documents, including the signed license and certification agreement
ISC	The Integrity Surveillance Committee (ISC) is an independent and impartial body formed of industry experts who are not certification body stakeholders. The ISC makes decisions on performance-related certification body sanctions and corrective measures following integrity assessments.
MRL	Maximum residue limits (MRLs) are set to monitor the application of plant protection products in crop farming. MRL testing is a screening method conducted in a laboratory to analyze residues on the final product.
Normative document	A document that provides rules, guidelines, or characteristics on what ought to be done within the application of a standard. In the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system, general regulations, rules, principle and criteria documents, checklists, and sublicense agreements, among others, are all normative documents.
Option 1	Option 1 certification is for individual producers with a single site or multiple sites that do not function as separate legal entities.
Option 2	Option 2 certification is for producer groups (cooperatives, etc.) where the legal entity of the group is the certificate holder once certified. The group must implement a quality management system.

Term	Definition
Parallel ownership	Parallel ownership occurs when individual producers, producer groups, or producer group members own the same product originating partly from GLOBALG.A.P. certified and partly from noncertified production processes. This may occur if they produce or buy noncertified products of the same product they produce and have registered for certification. Parallel ownership has specific rules that are part of the GLOBALG.A.P. general regulations.
Parallel production	Occurs when a legal entity produces certified and noncertified products (the same product). Certified and noncertified products must be segregated and have full traceability throughout the production, harvesting, and handling processes. Parallel production within the same production management unit is not allowed. Under IFA v6, "parallel production" is merged with "parallel ownership".
Product category	Within the GLOBALG.A.P. certification system, the product categories for the plants scope are: · Fruit and vegetables · Flowers and ornamentals · Plant propagation material · Combinable crops · Hops · Tea Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, and seaweed (macroalgae) species fall under the aquaculture scope.
QMS	A quality management system (QMS) is a set of policies, processes, and procedures required for planning and execution (production/development/service) in the core business area of an organization (i.e., areas that can impact the organization's ability to meet customer requirements).
QMS audit	An audit of the quality management system (QMS) of a producer group or a producer with several production sites (multisite producer). In IFA v5, QMS audits were previously called audits . QMS audits can be carried out internally or by a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body. In the GLOBALG.A.P. standards, the implementation of a QMS is obligatory for producer group certification and voluntary for individual producers with multisite certification.
QMS auditor	A person who conducts a QMS audit (previously called auditor in IFA v5)
Registered Trainer	Farming experts who are trained and authorized by GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPLUS GmbH to aid the implementation of GLOBALG.A.P. standards by offering training courses. They may also provide consultancy services.
RMS	A residue monitoring system (RMS) is a tool used to sample and record the results of maximum residue limit (MRL) testing in food. Residue monitoring provides assurance and transparency to both retailers and consumers on the responsible use of plant protection products and is required to demonstrate compliance with plant protection products analysis requirements when seeking certification.
Standard	An established set of criteria which must be fulfilled, according to established rules, to achieve recognition of a certain level of quality
Scheme manager	A representative of a GLOBALG.A.P. approved certification body who is the contact person for GLOBALG.A.P. related matters. This person fulfills all the criteria outlined in section 5.2 of the "GLOBALG.A.P. rules for certification bodies".
Self-assessment	An assessment which a producer must carry out before a certification body audit takes place in order to check whether they comply with enough principles and criteria from a GLOBALG.A.P. standard to pass a certification body audit. Only applicable to Options 1 and 3.
Unannounced audit	Certification body audits which are conducted without extended advance warning. Unannounced audits are conducted within 48 hours of notification in IFA v6 Smart and without notification at all in IFA v6 GFS.

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